



THE MANDALORIAN'S KATEE SACKHOFF: EXCLUSIVE!

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE | ISSUE 216

# STAR WARS

## INSIDER

**Exclusive  
Star Wars  
Fiction!**

An all-new  
story inside!

**The  
Best  
of the  
Batch**

Clone Force 99's  
most admirable  
attributes

INTERVIEW:

**Anthony Forrest**

Fixer: The cult of *Star Wars*:  
A *New Hope*'s lost character

# The Journey of Din Djarin

*The Mandalorian: The Story So Far...*



**FORCES OF NATURE**

THE WILD SPACES AND WILDER CREATURES OF *STAR WARS*





# ORIGINAL STORIES FROM THE GALACTIC FRONTIER



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# "Hello There!"



There seems to be a lot of armor in this issue of *Star Wars Insider*. I wouldn't call it a "theme," and it hadn't occurred to me until I sat down to write this editorial, but there are troopers *everywhere*!

Maybe it's the after effects of watching the Empire's soldiers make their presence felt in *Andor* (2022 -), or my ever-building anticipation for the imminent return of *The Bad Batch* (2021 -), or the fact that Season Three of *The Mandalorian* (2019 -) is just around the corner? Or maybe it's because I've always coveted a complete Imperial stormtrooper outfit of my own (I am just the right height, unlike a certain Skywalker!), and that obsession has simply crawled its way out of the dark recesses of my psyche and onto the pages of this magazine?

Whatever the reason, the upshot is that this issue should probably have been printed on plastoid composite or beskar-infused paper. We speak to Bo-Katan Kryze herself, Katee Sackhoff, about playing the warrior who is soon to resurface in the new season of *The Mandalorian*. And to prime you for that returning series, we retrace the journey of Din Djarin and Grogu from the first chapter right through their return in *The Book of Boba Fett* (2021). Among other fun features, there's a look at the admirable attributes that make the Bad Batch a force to be reckoned with, and we interview Anthony Forrest about playing one of the more infamous stormtroopers from *A New Hope* (1977). So, move along and get reading!

May the Force be with you.

**Christopher Cooper**  
 Editor

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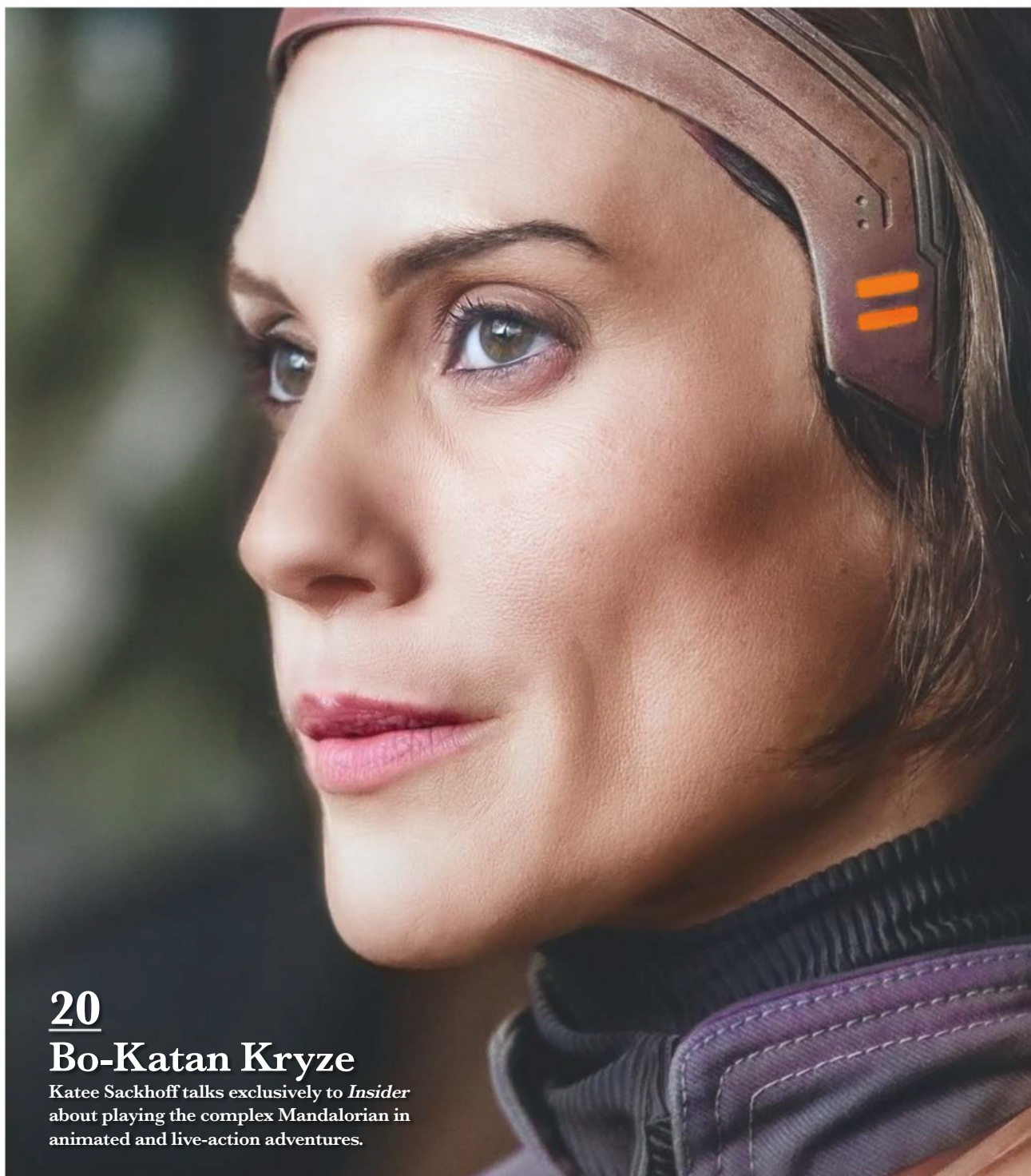
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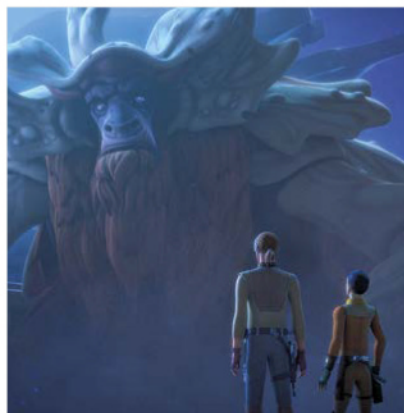
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# LAUNCHPAD

NEWS / BOOKS / COMICS / TOYS / GAMES / FASHION



## The Acolyte Advances

Cameras roll on new Disney+ *Star Wars* series

**F**ilming is now well underway on the latest live-action *Star Wars* series destined to stream exclusively on Disney+.

Created and executive produced by Leslye Headland, *Star Wars: The Acolyte* is billed as a mystery-thriller set during the final days of the High Republic era, when shadowy secrets and emerging dark-side powers threaten the galaxy. A former Padawan and her Jedi Master are reunited to investigate a series of crimes, only to uncover forces more sinister than they could ever have anticipated.

The series, which was first announced by Lucasfilm president Kathleen Kennedy two years ago, has attracted a stellar cast, including leads Amandla Stenberg (2018's *The Hate U Give*) and Emmy Award-winner Lee Jung-jae, who became a worldwide sensation in the hit Korean drama, *Squid Game* (2021). Joining them are genre favorites Dafne Keen, who played Lyra Silvertongue in the BBC fantasy series *His Dark Materials* (2019-2022), and Carrie-Anne Moss (Trinity in *The Matrix* movies), along with Manny Jacinto, Jodie Turner-Smith, Rebecca Henderson, Charlie Barnett, and Dean-Charles Chapman.

Shooting at studios in the U.K., Headland is directing the first episode, with the series being executive produced by Kathleen Kennedy, Simon Emanuel, Jeff F. King, and Jason Micallef. Producers are Rayne Roberts and Damian Anderson.

In other production news, the second season of *Star Wars: Andor* (2022-2024) is also in progress, again shooting in the U.K. under the guiding hand of series creator Tony Gilroy, while principal photography continues in Los Angeles on Jon Watts and Christopher Ford's *Star Wars: Skeleton Crew*, with *Star Wars: Ahsoka* due to move into post-production shortly.



# STAR WARS THE ACOLYTE



01 (L-R) Amandla Stenberg, Lee Jung-jae, and director Leslie Headland on the set of *Star Wars: The Acolyte*.



1



2



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4



5



6



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8



9

The recently announced cast of *Star Wars: The Acolyte*:

1. Amandla Stenberg
2. Lee Jung-Jae
3. Manny Jacinto
4. Dafne Keen
5. Jodie Turner-Smith
6. Rebecca Henderson
7. Charlie Barnett
8. Dean-Charles Chapman
9. Carrie-Anne Moss



# Off the Shelf

Vintage Kenner action figures up for grabs

**C**ollectors of Kenner's original *Star Wars* action figure line, which ran from 1978 to 1985, may be interested in an auction taking place in February 2023.

Recently uncovered in a warehouse, stored in factory-fresh cardboard boxes since the 1980s, a horde of carded, original trilogy action figures numbering more than 450 will go under the hammer at Morphy Auctions on February 1, with no reserve price. Lots include figures from the first set of twelve characters right through to the final Power of the Force toys to be released.

For updates on the details of the sale, visit [morphyauctions.com](https://morphyauctions.com).



## A Jedi's Journey

Relive the epic clash aboard Moff Gideon's cruiser

**L**uke Skywalker's arrival in *The Mandalorian's* (2019 - ) second-season finale shook the very foundations of the galaxy, as the iconic Jedi Master effortlessly sliced through a platoon of dark troopers to make his way to Grogu.

Iron Studios' Luke Skywalker (Combat Version) 1:10 Scale Statue is a hand-painted polystone collectible that showcases Luke's Jedi cloak, gloved hand, and green lightsaber. The wreckage of a dark trooper sits at Skywalker's feet, capturing the action sequence in all its glory. Standing 9.4-inches tall, the statue is priced at \$160.00 and can be ordered from [Sideshow.com](https://www.sideshow.com).





# Throwback Plaques

Decorate your den with legendary logos

**M**any of the fabled franchise's amazing concepts went through numerous iterations before their designs were finalized. Regal Robot's latest additions to its line of well-crafted wood art, priced \$19.99, include two of the earliest logos for *A New Hope*.

Developed from Lucasfilm's original imagery, the triangular and domed logos both portray an early production design image of a figure

holding a lightsaber. These colorful wood plaques feature 2D printed art and ship ready to hang.

Regal Robot also offers the Darth Vader in Flames Wood Art Plaque (\$34.99), inspired by the *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back* (1980) crew patch, and the *Revenge of the Jedi* Wood Art Plaque (\$34.99), which reflects the film's early title. Each of these four plaques is sold separately and are available to order at [RegalRobot.com](http://RegalRobot.com).



## PRODUCTION DIARY

Our regular summary of *Star Wars* movies and television series currently filming:

### IN PRODUCTION



Starring Jude Law  
Disney+



Starring: Amandla Stenberg  
and Lee Jung-Jae.  
Disney+

### COMING SOON



Season Two  
Starring Dee Bradley Baker  
and Michelle Ang  
Premiere date: January 4, 2023  
Disney+



Season Three  
Starring Pedro Pascal  
as Din Djarin  
Premiere date: March 1, 2023  
Disney+



Starring Rosario Dawson  
as Ahsoka Tano  
Cast Includes: Natasha Liu  
Bordizzo as Sabine Wren  
Disney+



# Hyperspace Habitat

Go from zero to fun in less than 12 parsecs

Whether piloted by Han Solo, Lando Calrissian, Chewbacca, or Rey, some of the most memorable *Star Wars* scenes have taken place inside the *Millennium Falcon's* cockpit. With the *Millennium Falcon* Play Tent, your younglings can make the jump to lightspeed as they imagine their own adventures in this fun recreation of the infamous freighter's design. From the detailed exterior, complete with windows, to an interior decorated with the *Falcon's* familiar control panels, the polyester tent presents endless opportunities to relive some of the most exciting moments from the *Star Wars* saga. Available now at [ShopDisney.com](https://shopdisney.com), priced at \$79.99.



## THE LIGHT SIDE

By Jamie Cosley





# The Fastest Freighter

A Corellian collectible for any starship enthusiast

**H**an Solo had to best Lando Calrissian in a game of sabacc to get his hands on the Corellian YT-1300 freighter, but you can get your own *Millennium Falcon* Die Cast Vehicle by heading over to **ShopDisney.com**. The exquisitely detailed model captures the *Falcon* in all its glory, complete with circular dish, ventral and dorsal guns, and strip of blue engines. Made from zinc alloy and PVC, the replica measures 7-inches long by 5 1/2-inches wide and retails for \$19.99.



# Destiny on Dagobah

Capture 900 years of knowledge with this stoic statue



**Y**oda's wisdom knew no bounds, as Luke

Skywalker soon discovered after he arrived on Dagobah in search of the Jedi Master. Gentle Giant Ltd's Yoda Milestones Statue depicts the gnomish character as we first met him in *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back* (1980), sitting on a swampy tree stump in the landscape of his adopted home. Priced at \$200.00, the 1:6 scale piece stands approximately 5 1/2-inches tall and is available for pre-order at **GentleGiantLtd.com**.

## The StarWars DotColumn

Fascinating features and articles from the digital vaults of [StarWars.com](http://StarWars.com)

Add [StarWars.com/Insider](http://StarWars.com/Insider) to your browser bookmarks to enjoy *Insider's* pick of the best of the official *Star Wars* website.

### Daughter of Ferrix

*Andor's* Fiona Shaw tells [StarWars.com](http://StarWars.com) about her role as Cassian's mother, Maarva, in the hit Disney+ series.



### Digital Cinema

Mike Blanchard, Lucasfilm's vice president of post-production, reveals how *Attack of the Clones* (2002) became the first all-digital blockbuster.



### Hunter's Headband

With *The Bad Batch* (2021 - ) back in action in January 2023, [StarWars.com's](http://StarWars.com) Kelly Knox shows you how to make your own clone headwear.





## Large and in Charge

This is the sandtrooper you're looking for!

While the Imperial sandtroopers failed to capture R2-D2 and C-3PO on Tatooine, Gentle Giant Ltd have succeeded in marvelous fashion with its Sandtrooper Jumbo Figure, based on the look of the Tatooine garrison from *Star Wars: A New Hope* (1977). The 1:6 scale figure stands 12-inches tall, features five points of articulation, comes complete with an orange shoulder pauldron and an Imperial blaster, and arrives packaged on a full-color, vintage-style blister card. Priced \$80.00, the sandtrooper is available for pre-order now at [GentleGiantLtd.com](http://GentleGiantLtd.com).



## Troopers On Patrol

Clone gear for adults and kids

### Execute Order 66

As the Clone War reached its epic conclusion, the Phase II helmets worn by the Republic's clone troopers began to reflect the design that would eventually be worn by Imperial stormtroopers. Hasbro's The Black Series Phase II Clone Trooper Premium Electronic Helmet (priced \$131.99) is an adjustable fit roleplay item that boasts premium decoration and electronic voice distortion. Will you defend the Republic or succumb to your programming and follow the Emperor's orders? Expected to ship in May 2023, the helmet is available to pre-order at [HasbroPulse.com](http://HasbroPulse.com).



### Express Your Identity

The Galactic Republic's clone troopers often customized their gear based on the unit in which they served, occasionally even personalizing their kit on an individual basis. The Clone Trooper Voice Changing Mask not only supplies your children with a one-size-fits-all mask and a voice changer, it also comes equipped with 9 colorful stickers that allows them to make the helmet design their own. Available at [ShopDisney.com](http://ShopDisney.com), priced \$34.99.

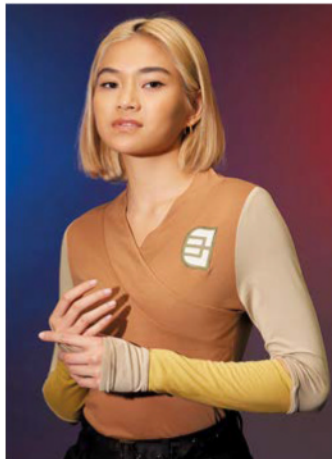




## Andor Outfits

Gear up in Ferrix style for your next mission

Whether you're prowling the streets of Ferrix or hunkered down on Aldhani, HerUniverse offers a pair of *Andor* (2022 - ) exclusives that will keep you warm in any weather. The Our Universe *Star Wars: Andor* Logo Shacket is a 100 percent cotton garment that includes double chest pockets and a button-front closure. Adorned with the Rebel Alliance symbol on the front and a distressed print of the *Andor* logo across the back, everyone will know where your loyalties lie. HerUniverse's Bix Caleen Cosplay Long-Sleeve Top is another excellent option, as the 65% polyester-35% rayon top emulates Bix's outfit with a faux wrap design and mesh sleeves. Both the shacket (\$64.90) and long-sleeve top (\$44.90) can be found at [HerUniverse.com](https://www.heruniverse.com).



## Snow Trooping

Ride flakey across your favorite winter wonderland

Looking to hit the slopes at your favorite winter resort and are in need of some

slick transportation? DC Shoes has you covered with a pair of impressive snowboards inspired by the *Star Wars* saga.

The DC Dark Side Ply Snowboard honors the Empire with vintage artwork depicting Darth Vader, stormtroopers, and TIE fighters from the original trilogy, while the DC Boba Fett Ply Snowboard commemorates the notorious bounty hunter with its artful design. Both boards feature snappy Lock & Load Camber paired with a super-pressable flex of a biax glass layup and a lightweight stratus core. The boards are priced at \$429.95 each and can be ordered at [DCShoes.com](https://www.dcsneakers.com), where you'll also find a host of slope-ready dark side and Fett-inspired apparel.



## MANDO MERCH

The latest bounty on which to blow your beskar



### Marshal in Disguise

Stand with Vanth as he protects the people of Mos Pelgo

When Din Djarin first encountered Cobb Vanth in Mos Pelgo (eventually renamed Freetown), the marshal stepped onto the scene wearing Boba Fett's signature armor. Following a tense standoff, Djarin and Vanth ultimately befriended one another as they battled a krayt dragon. Funko's Marshal Pop! Vinyl Figure, which stands 3 3/4-inches tall and retails for \$11.99, replicates Vanth's look before he decided to hand Fett's armor over to Din Djarin. Watch out for the super-rare Chase variant, featuring Vanth without Fett's helmet!





# Book Club

Feel the Force with the latest *Star Wars* book releases.



## One Step Ahead

Catch up with Cal Kestis in *Star Wars Jedi: Battle Scars*

The 2019 action-adventure video game *Star Wars Jedi: Fallen Order* was a smash hit, selling millions of copies and earning accolades from fans and critics alike. Developed by Respawn Entertainment, *Fallen Order* allowed players to take the role of Cal Kestis, a Jedi Padawan who escaped the galaxy-wide extermination campaign of Order 66 only to find himself the target of Imperial Inquisitors in the “dark

times” between the events of *Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith* (2005) and *A New Hope* (1977).

A video game sequel—*Star Wars Jedi: Survivor*—is set for release in 2023, but eager fans can get up to speed on Cal’s exploits in the interim thanks to a new hardcover novel written by Sam Maggs. In *Battle Scars*, Cal Kestis leads his compatriots on another desperate adventure that promises to bridge

the storytelling gaps between *Fallen Order* and its sequel. It’s clear that the Empire hasn’t forgotten about their encounters with this particularly troublesome Jedi, and soon Cal and the other crewmembers of the starship *Mantis* must face a dire onslaught that threatens their very existence.

*Star Wars Jedi: Battle Scars* from publisher Random House Worlds is on sale March 7.



01



01

**Star Wars:  
Return of the Jedi:  
The Battle of Endor**

Part of the World of Reading series aimed at young and beginning readers, *Return of the Jedi: The Battle of Endor* is a Level 2 reader that retells the climactic events of the 1983 cinematic classic.

On the Forest Moon of Endor, Princess Leia and Han Solo meet the Ewoks—as fierce as they are cuddly—while Luke Skywalker faces Darth Vader and Emperor Palpatine in a confrontation that will determine the fate of the galaxy! Written by Ella Patrick, this child-friendly storybook is scheduled to be published by Disney Lucasfilm Press on March 7.

02



02

**Star Wars: Hunters  
Battle for the Arena**

The hit mobile game *Star Wars: Hunters* is a free-to-play arena combat game available on multiple platforms and devices, and fans of the game won't want to miss *Battle for the Arena*, a middle-grade novel that expands on the characters, settings, and events of the game.

On the planet Vespaara, teams of fighters face off in battlefields in front of roaring crowds. Can the Force-sensitive orphan Rieve escape her troubled past and triumph over her rival competitors? Featuring original illustrations based on the game characters, this 240-page hardcover by author Mark Oshiro is published by Disney Lucasfilm Press on March 7.

03



03

**The Star Wars Archives:  
Episodes I-III 1999-2005**

Marking publisher Taschen's 40th anniversary, this reformatted reprint provides a comprehensive look into the making of the *Star Wars* prequel trilogy and features script pages, production documents, concept art, storyboards, on-set photography, stills, and promotional posters. Created with the full cooperation of George Lucas and Lucasfilm, *The Star Wars Archives: Episodes I-III 1999-2005* is the second volume in Taschen's exhaustive exploration of the *Star Wars* films, and features exclusive interviews with George Lucas and his collaborators. The book will be on sale in U.S. stores on February 13.



# Comics Roundup

Rogues and assassins abound in this month's *Star Wars* comics.

## A Starros is Born

Fan favorite gets her own limited series

Since her 2015 debut in Marvel Comics' ongoing *Star Wars* series, stories featuring Sana Starros have revealed her tangled backstory of complicated friendships and unexpected ex-partners. A smuggler by trade, she prefers to keep out of the spotlight, but an all-new limited series debuting this February puts Sana Starros into a headlining role! Writer Justina Ireland (*The High Republic: Path of Deceit*) takes writers duties for the five-issue escapade, aided in her efforts by artist Pere Pérez (*Star Wars Revelations*).

Although Starros is known for her connections with fellow scoundrels like Han Solo and Doctor Aphra, in *Sana Starros* #1 she confronts her most complicated allies—her own family! Stung by a series of setbacks, Starros makes the difficult decision to return to her family's ancestral home. But family time isn't exactly downtime, especially when you're a notorious scoundrel and



your family consists of ne'er-dowells and reprobates of a similar caliber to yourself.

And just when things don't look like they can possibly get any worse, the Empire arrives on the scene. What will happen when a squad of

stormtroopers crash the Starros family dinner table?

*Star Wars: Sana Starros* #1 features multiple covers by artists including Sara Pichelli, Ken Lashley, and Ernada Souza, and will be on sale February 1.



### ***Hyperspace Stories #5***

Dark Horse Comics' all-ages series *Star Wars Hyperspace Stories* allows fans to experience thrilling new adventures set in every era of the *Star Wars* timeline.

In the anthology's fifth installment, writer Amanda Deibert spins a tale of evil and intrigue during the darkest days of the Clone Wars. Dispatched by Count Dooku, Sith assassin Asajj Ventress stalks her prey from the Outer Rim all the way to tranquil Naboo, but just what is her target? And can even the Jedi stand in her way? Featuring interior and cover art by Riccardo Facinni, *Star Wars: Hyperspace Stories #5* is on sale on February 15.



### ***Doctor Aphra #28***

Rogue archaeologist Chelli Aphra has made many enemies during her checkered career, but the smuggler Sana Starros remains particularly close to her heart. Now that Ronen Tagge and Domina Tagge are butting heads over the fate of the Tagge Corporation, Starros finds herself caught between both sides. But if there's one thing that Starros has learned from Aphra, it's how to find the advantage in any situation. No matter who wins, she's determined to come out on top!

Written by Alyssa Wong with art by Minkyu Jung, *Doctor Aphra #28* is on sale January 25.



### ***Star Wars #31***

While hunting for a lost treasure, Luke Skywalker, Leia Organa, and an elite squad of rebels find themselves marooned in an unknown galactic region known only as No-Space. A desperate maneuver is their only chance of escape, but what will it cost them—and can they still hope to find their way home?

On sale February 1, *Star Wars #31* is written by series regular Charles Soule, with art by Andrés Genoet and cover art by Stephen Segovia. Look out for several variant covers by artists John Tyler Christopher, Chris Sprouse, and Caspar Wijngaard.



## **Incoming**

Don't Miss These  
Upcoming Releases



### **JANUARY**

#### ***The Mandalorian #7***

Marvel Comics

Writer: Rodney Barnes

Artist: Georges Jeanty

Cover Artist: Steve McNiven

#### ***Bounty Hunters #30***

Marvel Comics

Writer: Ethan Sacks

Artist: Paolo Villanelli

Cover Artist: Giuseppe Camuncoli

#### ***Yoda #3***

Marvel Comics

Writer: Cavan Scott

Artist: Nico Leon

Cover Artist: Phil Noto

### **FEBRUARY**

#### ***Hidden Empire #3***

Marvel Comics

Writers: Charles Soule

Artists: Stephen Cummings

Cover Artist: Paulo Siqueira

#### ***Darth Vader #31***

Marvel Comics

Writer: Greg Pak

Artist: Ibraim Robertson

Cover Artist: Rahzzah

#### ***Doctor Aphra #29***

Marvel Comics

Writers: Alyssa Wong

Artists: Minkyu Jung

Cover Artist: W. Scott Forbes







# Luminous Lore

Shining a light on *Star Wars: The High Republic*.

## For Light and Life!

Your guide to the golden age of the galaxy far, far away!

Every *Star Wars* era comes with its own set of reference books, from “Making of” tomes to the lavishly presented “Art of” series, and *the High Republic* is no different. Joining *The Art of Star Wars: The High Republic* in stores and on bookshelves this March is *Star Wars: The High Republic: Chronicles of the Jedi* from Insight Editions, which promises a highly immersive journey in the world of the galaxy’s golden age.

Written by Cole Horton, the hardcover book’s 160 pages provide fascinating insight into a time of intrepid exploration, courageous heroes, and horrifying monsters. Learn about the Jedi and their villainous adversaries, such as the Nihil and Drengir, of the era through in-depth profiles of its major players, such as



Keeve Trennis, Avar Kriss, Bell Zettifar, Stellan Gios, Burryaga, and Yoda, among others. The book includes surprising new revelations and features original illustrations by Yihyoung Li that bring *the High Republic*’s myriad characters, creatures, locations, and vehicles to vivid life, all in support of the storytelling that binds Lucasfilm’s successful publishing initiative together. *Chronicles of the Jedi* will be in bookstores on March 21.

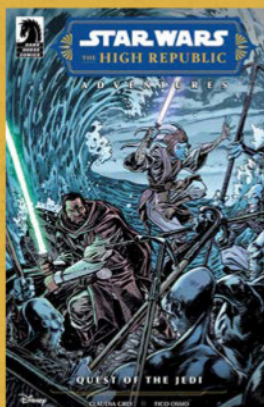
## Incoming Comics



*The High Republic* #5  
Writer: Cavan Scott  
Artist: Andrea Broccardo  
Cover: Yanick Paquette  
Marvel Comics  
On sale February 8



*The Blade* #3 (of 4)  
Writer: Charles Soule  
Artist: Jethro Morales  
Cover: Giuseppe Camuncoli  
Marvel Comics  
On sale February 22



*The High Republic Adventures: Quest of the Jedi* #1  
Writer: Claudia Gray  
Artist and Cover: Fico Ossio  
Dark Horse Comics  
On sale March 1



## Republic Roundup

### AVAILABLE NOW

#### PHASE I

*Light of the Jedi*

Writer: Charles Soule  
Del Rey, Adult novel

*A Test of Courage*

Writer: Justina Ireland  
Disney Lucasfilm Press, Middle Grade novel

*The Great Jedi Rescue*

Writer: Cavan Scott  
Artist: Petur Antonsson  
Disney Lucasfilm Press, 8x8 storybook

*Into the Dark*

Writer: Claudia Gray  
Disney Lucasfilm Press, Young Adult novel

*The Rising Storm*

Writer: Cavan Scott  
Del Rey, Adult novel

*Race to Crashpoint Tower*

Writer: Daniel José Older  
Disney Lucasfilm Press, Middle Grade novel

*Out of the Shadows*

Writer: Justina Ireland  
Disney Lucasfilm Press, Young Adult novel

*Tempest Runner*

Writer: Cavan Scott  
Del Rey, Audio original novel

*Showdown at the Fair*

Writer: George Mann  
Artist: Petur Antonsson  
Disney Lucasfilm Press, 8x8 storybook

*Mission to Disaster*

Writer: Justina Ireland  
Disney Lucasfilm Press, Middle Grade novel

*The Fallen Star*

Writer: Claudia Gray  
Del Rey, Adult novel

*The Battle for Starlight*

Writer: George Mann  
Artist: Petur Antonsson  
Disney Lucasfilm Press, 8x8 storybook

*Midnight Horizon*

Writer: Daniel José Older  
Disney Lucasfilm Press, Young Adult novel

#### PHASE II

*Path of Deceit*

Writer: Justina Ireland  
and Tessa Gratton  
Disney Lucasfilm Press, Young Adult novel

*Quest for the Hidden City*

Writer: George Mann  
Disney Lucasfilm Press, Middle Grade novel

*Convergence*

Writer: Zoraida Córdova  
Del Rey, Adult novel

*The Battle of Jedha*

Writer: George Mann  
Random House, Audio original novel

(Excluding Comics & Manga)





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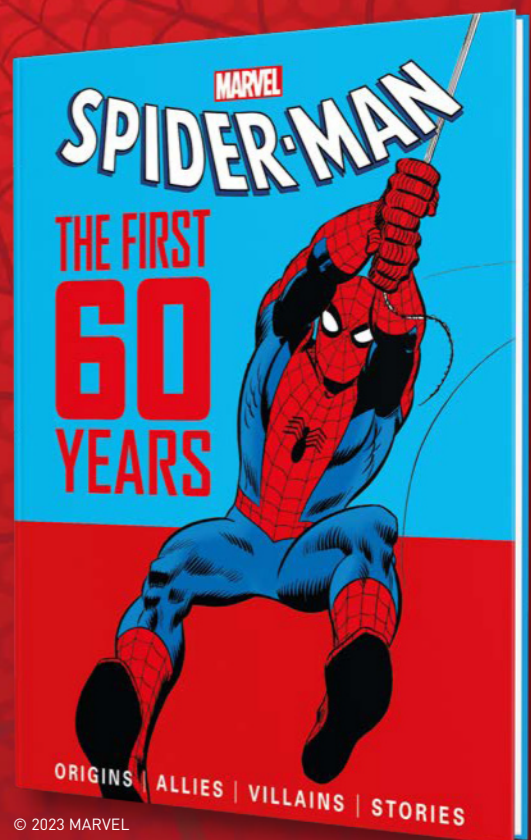
## YOUR ESSENTIAL COMPANION TO THE BLOCKBUSTER MARVEL STUDIOS MOVIE!

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# THE MAKING OF A MANDALORIAN

As Bo-Katan Kryze, Katee Sackhoff's *Star Wars* journey has taken her character from animated form in *Star Wars: The Clone Wars* to the live-action adventure of *Star Wars: The Mandalorian*. With Season 3 about to debut on Disney+, the actor spoke to *Insider* about how a part in *Robot Chicken* led her to the throne of Mandalore.

WORDS: JOHN KIRK

Y

ou know where you stand with Katee Sackhoff. Bold, direct, and possessed of an impish sense of humor, she's a galaxy

away from the *Star Wars* character she has played since Bo-Katan Kryze first arrived in *Star Wars: The Clone Wars* (2008-2020). Sackhoff has made a name for herself playing such strong, warrior characters, most famously as ace pilot Kara "Starbuck" Thrace in the 2003 reboot of *Battlestar Galactica* (2003-2009), and as Niko Breckinridge in Netflix sci-fi series *Another Life* (2019-2021).

"I don't like to play uncomplicated women," Sackhoff smiles. "I like to walk a mile in someone else's shoes. In the case of Niko in *Another Life*, I wanted to live in the mindset of someone who knew that to save her child's life she had to leave her behind on Earth, knowing she would never come home again. One of the things I love about Bo-Katan Kryze is that I don't think being female has ever crossed her mind in relation to her capabilities or lack thereof. She's a warrior, yes. She's a woman, true. But Bo-Katan is an example of growth and redemption, forgiveness and atonement. She has tremendous

01 Bo-Katan Kryze (Sackhoff) in *The Mandalorian* Chapter 11 "The Heiress."

02 Katee Sackhoff as Bo-Katan Kryze.



"BO-KATAN IS AN  
EXAMPLE OF GROWTH  
AND REDEMPTION,  
FORGIVENESS AND  
ATONEMENT."





strengths but just as harsh weaknesses. She's real. She's flawed. She has a large ego, and it has cost her."

### Career Goals

Sackhoff seems quite at home working primarily in the sci-fi and fantasy genres, and she credits her choice of roles to the influence of her father, who is a huge fan of both.

"My dad raised me on all things sci-fi," Sackhoff reveals. "I think I watched *Forbidden Planet* (1956) when I was four and I thought, 'This is awesome!' My father loves sci-fi and fantasy. He loves action. He's always been a movie guy and he usually had something playing on the weekends that caught my attention. He loves *Star Trek*, and it seemed like that was always on in our house. Honestly, he just loves anything in those genres. There's so much new content, especially now, that I feel like my dad is constantly calling me up, saying, 'Did you see such and such?' He's always just loved film and TV.

"The moment I had the chance to make choices in my career, I started going for things that I knew my dad would like to watch. When he saw me as Starbuck, I knew that role would not only change my career, but it would change the way people looked at me."

During the Vietnam War, Sackhoff's father, Dennis, served in the 9th Division until 1968. Has the actor drawn on his military experience for any of her roles?

03 Bo-Katan, voiced by Sackhoff, was a recurring character in *The Clone Wars* (2008-2020)

04 Kryze returned to the fray in *Star Wars: Rebels* (2014-2018).

05 The menacing helmet markings of Bo-Katan.



### ASSET COLLECTOR

"I have as much Grogu stuff as anyone. I wanted to get one of those 'The Child' stickers for the back of my car. I have keychains, you name it. I'm obsessed," says Sackhoff, admitting her fascination with *The Mandalorian's* breakout star knows no bounds. "My initial reaction to Grogu was close to that of meeting a dog. If a dog comes up to me, I have an immediate emotional connection with that animal, and I had the same thing with Grogu. He is real to me. It's the coolest thing ever, because during a scene he reacts to me, to what I'm saying."




"I didn't know my father as a soldier." Sackhoff says. "His time was served quite a bit before I was born. To me, he's just my dad. I personally don't focus on a character's career to inform their personality traits. I figure out what a character wants and what their vulnerabilities and strengths are. What makes them tick, so to speak. What motivates them. The fact that Bo-Katan and Starbuck are both in a form of military is not who they are, but what they do."

### Playing Chicken

Sackhoff's chance to join the biggest galaxy of them all came through some voice work for a show famous for parodying *Star Wars* (among many other films and television series): the stop-motion animated comedy, *Robot Chicken* (2005 - ).


Originally asked to play Starbuck alongside other members of the *Battlestar Galactica* cast in a sketch lampooning the show, Sackhoff was eventually given a recurring role in the series, playing a toy doll with the foulest, trashiest mouth any average eight-year-old couldn't possibly imagine.





"I DIDN'T  
NEED TO  
DO ANY  
RESEARCH!  
IT WAS  
*STAR WARS!*"





06 Bo-Katan's hopes for regaining the Darksaber were diminished in *The Mandalorian* Season Two finale.

"AS A KID, I'D WANTED TO GROW UP TO BE PRINCESS LEIA."

"That led directly to me becoming Bo-Katan," confirms Sackhoff.

*"Robot Chicken's* creators, Seth Green and Matt Senreich, were friends with Dave Filoni and one day he called them up to ask what

I was like to work with.

Thankfully, I'm not like the character I played on their show!" She laughs. "That's how I ended up working on *The Clone Wars*."

As one might expect, having spent a lifetime watching science fiction and fantasy movies with her dad, Sackhoff was no stranger to the saga, so preparing for the role of Bo-Katan wasn't a strenuous task.

"I didn't need to do any research! It was *Star Wars*!" She grins. "I've told *everyone* who has ever represented me that if the *Star Wars* people ever called me, for *anything*, I would take it. I kid you not. If they'd told me to play the part of a rock and sit in the background, I would have taken it! When Dave



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called me and asked me to voice the part of Bo-Katan, I jumped. There were no questions, I just said ‘yes!’

“As a kid, I’d wanted to grow up to be Princess Leia. I’d also wanted to grow up to be Bruce Willis, but I really wanted to be in *Star Wars*. I loved that world! I loved what *Star Wars* was, so it blew my mind that the circumstances of my career had found me in that place!”

The transition to playing the character in live action was equally exciting.

“It was so crazy,” admits Sackhoff. “I know my stuff, so I didn’t need to work out the backstory for Bo-Katan. But when I looked at myself in the mirror on my first day in the suit, with the hair, it dawned on me that I hadn’t asked myself how she moved, how her face moved, how her mouth moved! I needed to figure out how this woman warrior lived in her skin, and I realized Bo-Katan *doesn’t* move! So, I had to throw out everything about Katee.

“One of the things I find so much fun about this industry is it’s like a never-ending movie when I play a role, because I dream as my characters. I know that the moment I start dreaming as one of my characters, especially during the making of a show, that I’ve found out who the character is. I love that.”

Among many highlights while filming *The Mandalorian* (2019 - ), Sackhoff has most praise for her behind-the-scenes colleagues on the production.

“For me, what stood out most was the crew: the hardest working crew I’ve ever met,” says Sackhoff. “They give so much to the series, and they do it because they love *Star Wars* and the show we’ve been making. I’ve made so many lifelong friends and am completely in awe of what they’ve created. Top to bottom, every department. Just outstanding.”

07 Concept art by Brian Matyas.

08 Din Djarin with Mandalorians Bo-Katan (Sackhoff), Axe Wolves (Simon Kassianides), and Koska Reeves (Mercedes Varnado).

09 A clash of creeds didn’t stop Din Djarin (Pedro Pascal) and Bo-Katan Kryze (Sackhoff) from joining forces.

09








# ***FORCES OF NATURE***

THE WILD SPACES AND WILDER  
CREATURES OF THE *STAR WARS* GALAXY





***Insider* explores how the natural world played a key role in the character development of some of *Star Wars*' most famous heroes.**

WORDS: JAMES CLARKE

W

hen the second Death Star was destroyed at the end of *Return of the Jedi* (1983), we

witnessed the resultant fireball from the vantage point of the enduring forests of Endor. In that moment, we were reminded that nature had outlasted the technological terrors created by those in the galaxy who pursued power and control. It wasn't the first or the last time that a *Star Wars* movie, television series, videogame, novel, or comic book showed us how strong a force nature and the natural world could be.

Throughout the *Star Wars* saga, characters have often been challenged and altered by the wild places and spaces they found themselves in, their strengths and weaknesses tested. Recall that sense of peril and mortal danger in *The Last Jedi* (2017), when General Leia Organa had to draw on her sensitivity to the Force in order to survive being hurled into the wildest of environments—the icy vacuum of space. At other times, wilderness has been the place where *Star Wars* characters have found themselves dramatically rebooted for new adventures. In *The Mandalorian* (2019 - ), Din Djarin's quest to protect Grogu took him to a range of locations in which the bounty hunter faced challenges that changed his perception of the galaxy around him and his place in it, such as his confrontation with the mudhorn on Arvala-7. That moment became a turning point in the bounty hunter's evolution and in his relationship with Grogu. ►



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02



01 Ahsoka Tano used the mists of Corvus as a weapon against Magistrate Morgan Elsbeth's forces. Concept art by Brian Matyas.

03



02 Obi-Wan Kenobi harnessed the Tusken Raider's fear of krayt dragons to his advantage

03 Din Djarin's battle with the mudhorn on Arvala-7 was pivotal in his relationship with Grogu.

## ► At One With Nature

Throughout their travels, Djarin and Grogu formed alliances and friendships across the wilds of space, and wherever you look in *Star Wars*, you'll find strong friendships and family bonds being created. Sometimes, however, our heroes had to go it alone in the wild and find a balance within it.

During his self-imposed exile in the aftermath of the tragic events depicted in *Revenge of the Sith* (2005), Obi-Wan Kenobi hid out in the desert of Tatooine. Over the years, the Jedi gained a deep knowledge into the sights and sounds of the wilderness: remember how he mimicked the call of a krayt dragon to disperse a band of Tusken Raiders in *A New Hope* (1977)? This affinity with nature is a repeated



**“OVER THE YEARS, THE JEDI GAINED A DEEP INSIGHT INTO THE SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF THE WILDERNESS.”**



nature thrives best when it serves to the mutual advantage of all life forms. The Force itself had two sides: the living Force and a greater cosmic Force. The living Force made one sensitive to other living things, while the cosmic Force was more aligned with destiny. This concept reaches through all nine films. In *The Phantom Menace* (1999), Gungans and humans came together to battle a huge, invading military force, and their unity was forged in an ancient forest at a sacred place. In *Star Wars*, nature is a source of insight and strength for certain characters. Look how attuned Grogu is to nature and

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## LOVING LIFE

Rey was moved by several experiences on her journey across the stars that showed her how affirming nature could be, such as her sense of wonder at seeing the verdant forests and wide lakes of Takodana for the first time in *The Force Awakens*. Later, in *The Rise of Skywalker*, Rey expressed her delight at witnessing the festival of the Aki-Aki on Pasaana, which stood in stark contrast to her lonely life on Jakku, bereft of any sense of joy or possibility of belonging.

origins and where she might be going, echoing Luke Skywalker's venture into the Dagobah cave. For both Rey and Luke, the shadow-places brought forth a test that became vital for them.

## Sand And Sea

For Padawans, nature and wilderness had exerted immense power over their thoughts, feelings, and imaginations, and a similar experience was also key to Boba Fett's story.

In the second episode of *The Book of Boba Fett* (2021), "The Tribes of Tatooine," the bounty hunter was very much remade in a new image through his encounter with the Tusken Raiders. Fett was held prisoner by a Tusken tribe until he saved the life of one of their young and was welcomed into their number. Through an initiation rite, he experienced a vision at a dead tree that offered him a clear and powerful sense of his past, present, and future. The gift of Fett's experience with the Tusks was that he became keenly attuned to the wilderness, and while the seemingly barren desert of Tatooine ►



04 Shadows and underground spaces played a part in the training of both Luke Skywalker and Rey.

05 Boba Fett experienced a vision quest in the desert of Tatooine.

motif. In *The Mandalorian*, we saw how Ahsoka Tano made an ally of a fog-enshrouded forest on Corvus to swiftly dispatch a legion of heavily armed enemies.

It's a "symbiotic relationship," to use an idea that George Lucas worked with in developing the stories for the prequels. The first three episodes of the Skywalker saga emphasized the idea that

animals. In this way, Grogu represents the idea of symbiotic relationships that Qui Gon-Jinn explained to Anakin Skywalker in *The Phantom Menace*, a lesson repeated by Yoda to Luke in *The Empire Strikes Back* (1980). Yoda's words were vividly revisited in *The Last Jedi*, during Rey's subterranean experience on Ahch-To where she tried to learn more about her



► was a long way from the oceans of Kamino, he was able to immerse himself in Tusken culture. Crafting his own gaderffii stick using a branch from the tree in his vision was a big step on his journey towards finally being reborn, culminating in a ritual Tusken dance around a campfire, a source of elemental power, with his newfound family.

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In *Star Wars*, the starkness of deserts can emphasize moments of sorrow for characters: think of Boba Fett at the funeral pyre in the Tusken camp and recall, too, the stark and elegantly composed image of Anakin, Padmé Amidala, and the Lars family gathered at Shmi's gravestone in *Attack of the Clones* (2002). The barren emptiness of the desert in which they stood emphasized their own shared feelings at that moment. In *A New Hope*, Luke's dull life, seemingly without variety or color, was represented by the endless desert. Similarly, the vast plains of Lothal defined Ezra Bridger's empty existence before his adventures in *Star Wars Rebels* (2014-2018) began, and he and Kanan Jarrus embarked on a new path that would lead them both to an encounter with an immense wilderness power.

## Natural Balance

Jarrus was the first to meet Bendu, guided towards the enigmatic being by a convor (a species that had a strong connection to the Force). Immense in size and buffalo-like in appearance, Bendu's imposing physical presence was counterpointed by its gentle demeanor. Bendu embodied nature as a source of wisdom and insight, and represented the balance between darkness and light—a balance rooted in George Lucas' earliest development of the Force when writing the original *Star Wars*.

Echoing Yoda's conversations with Luke Skywalker on Dagobah, Bendu told the recently blinded Kanan that "you must learn to

06 Boba Fett was left with only his faithful bantha for company after his Tusken tribe were slaughtered.

07 Shmi Skywalker's death at the hands of Tusken Raiders was a reminder of the harshness of Tatooine life.

08 Kanan Jarrus and Ezra Bridger with Bendu.

"He doesn't want to take part in their struggle and in their chaos. He likes balance, and he likes neutrality."

## Worlds In Contrast

In contrast to arid planets like Tatooine and Jakku were the lush and nurturing forests of Endor and Kashyyyk. On both worlds, Ewoks and Wookiees lived in great harmony with nature.

The forests of Endor were partly inspired by the fairy tale tradition in which characters are tested, transformed, and helped when they find themselves lost in the world of nature. It is a storytelling device that's deeply embedded in the tradition of the folk tales that *Star Wars* draws upon. In the documentary *From Star Wars to*

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## "BENDU EMBODIED NATURE AS A SOURCE OF WISDOM AND INSIGHT."

see things differently now." The loss of his eyesight had radically changed Kanan's outlook and his relationship with the Force, and he had been struggling to adjust. Bendu's indifference to the affairs of the galaxy helped Jarrus find a new way of seeing. As series creator Dave Filoni told comicbook.com in 2017,

*Jedi: The Making of a Saga* (1983), George Lucas explained to actor Mark Hamill and director Richard Marquand how the Ewoks were like "nice little bunny rabbits on the side of the road" who unexpectedly offered the heroes exactly what they needed at exactly the right moment in their journey.



Nature can be cruel as well as nurturing, however: picture the fires and volcanic lava flows of Mustafar and how they symbolized the anger and regret that fired the lightsaber duel between Obi-Wan Kenobi and Anakin Skywalker in *Revenge of the Sith*. The colors and forms of the Mustafar wilderness

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**“EWOKS AND WOOKIEES LIVED IN GREAT HARMONY WITH NATURE.”**

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## THE PERFECT LOCATION

A number of sequences set on the island of Ahch-To in *The Last Jedi* were filmed on location on Skellig Michael, an island of the coast of Ireland famous for its wildlife. Writer Robert L. Harris, in his book *Returning Light: 30 Years of Life on Skellig Michael*, could have been talking about the perfect location for a Jedi temple when he wrote: “The mind wanders; links with the past are easily made; ancient ways of viewing things come alive.”

09 The lava flows of Mustafar symbolized the conflict between Obi-Wan Kenobi and Anakin Skywalker.

10 The Wookiee homeworld Kashyyyk.

11 Luke Skywalker saw a vision of Tatooine’s twin suns shortly before he became one with the Force.

12 Temiri Blagg saw hope in the stars.

were an unambiguous visualization of both characters’ feelings.

Stars, without which life cannot exist, are among the most elemental forces of nature in *Star Wars*, and they played their part in the final scenes of *The Last Jedi* that linked two characters profoundly connected to the worlds that surrounded them. First, we were shown Luke Skywalker’s vision of Tatooine’s twin sunsets as he sat alone on Ahch-To, having been restored to his best self. It’s an image that speaks of promise and potential because a sunset is always, inevitably, followed by a new dawn. Several scenes later, on Canto Bight, a boy named Temiri Blagg looked to the stars and the possibility and hope that they embodied.

While technology and war provide the whizz and bang of *Star Wars*, it’s always worth remembering that we pay close attention to the natural backdrop of that fictional galaxy and our own—its energy surrounds us and penetrates us. It binds both galaxies together. Nature is the true Force. 🌌



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# THE JOURNEY OF DIN DJARIN

Din Djarin and Grogu, the clan of two, are soon to embark on an epic new season of adventures when the Emmy Award-winning series *Star Wars: The Mandalorian* returns to Disney+ this spring. In preparation, *Insider* takes a lightspeed look at their story so far...

WORDS: KRISTIN BAVER

W

hen we first met Din Djarin in Season One of *The Mandalorian* (2019 - ), we knew very little about the mysterious warrior.

A successful bounty hunter who favored a blaster and a blunt way of speaking, Djarin took his assignments from Greef Karga, head of the local Bounty Hunters Guild, while secretly communing within a Mandalorian covert beneath the streets of Nevarro City. Torn between these two worlds, he was a strict adherent to both the Bounty Hunter Guild code and the Way of the Mandalore. Finding Grogu changed everything. ▶





01 Moff Gideon was obsessed with capturing Grogu. Concept art by Brian Matyas.

02 Din Djarin's ship, the *Razor Crest*.

03 Djarin found an ally in Peli Motto, a Tatooine mechanic who took a liking to Grogu.

04 Din Djarin delivered Grogu to the Client, the vile individual who had placed a high bounty on the child's head.

► When Djarin first met the child, he clearly saw something of himself in the green creature's wide eyes. As we learned in flashback glimpses, Din was also a survivor, dodging a super battle droid attack that killed his family thanks to a Mandalorian who whisked the young boy to safety and took him in. Although Djarin was resistant to his pull toward the foundling Grogu, his conscience got the better of him after the young one saved his life in an altercation with a massive mudhorn. In quick succession, Djarin risked everything to rescue the youngster from the Imperial-aligned Client, a sinister man who had paid handsomely for Din's skills and his silence, allowing the hunter to obtain a shiny new set of beskar armor.

After freeing Grogu from medical testing at the hands of Dr. Pershing and betraying the Bounty Hunters Guild, the pair left Nevarro in Djarin's

ship, the *Razor Crest*, and went into hiding on the world of Sorgan. However, it wasn't long before other bounty hunters were on their trail.

On a brief stop-over on Tatooine, where Djarin was forced to make an emergency landing for ship repairs, the mercenary earned some credits helping to collect a bounty on Fennec Shand, and made friends with mechanic Peli Motto, who quickly became enamored with little Grogu,



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## INSIDER INTEL

### Favreau's Pitch

The idea for *The Mandalorian* was, in part, an homage to the film *Lone Wolf and Cub* (1972) featuring a Ronin samurai wandering Japan with a small child by his side. Creator Jon Favreau first envisioned the character of the Mandalorian around 2012, when Disney acquired Lucasfilm. Among his ideas were "an intimate, character-driven narrative, disconnected from the larger wars of *Star Wars*, featuring a lone Mandalorian gunfighter redeemed by the child that he must protect," author Phil Szostak relates in *The Art of Star Wars: The Mandalorian Volume I*. This provided the opportunity to merge Western imagery and samurai film tropes with a uniquely *Star Wars* spin.

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unintentionally becoming his babysitter when Djarin temporarily left the child in her care.

Desperate for work, Djarin made another stop to see his old friend Ran, and agreed to lead an infiltration team during a prison break aboard a New Republic ship. But it was a surprise plea from Karga himself, who Din had left for dead on Nevarro, that brought him and the young one back to where it all began in the hopes of clearing his name and taking out the Client.

To prepare for what was almost certainly a trap of some kind, Djarin put together a crew: Cara Dune, a former rebel shocktrooper and brawler with no love for the Empire or those who still followed its rules; Kuiil, a patient Ugnaught moisture farmer with a succinct way of ending conversations with the simple phrase, "I have spoken"; and IG-11, a reprogrammed assassin droid Djarin had once utterly flattened. In a ruse of their own, Din agreed to return to the Client's office in binders to gain entry and catch him off guard, with a decoy pram floating by his side and Grogu and Kuiil on their way back to the safety of the *Razor Crest*.

But things went sideways, fast. Moff Gideon arrived, flanked by his Imperial remnant soldiers,

and scout troopers caught up with Kuiil and snatched Grogu from his arms. Pinned down with nowhere to go, Djarin and his friends barely escaped into the sewers while the Nevarro public house was all-but destroyed by blaster fire. But the Mandalorian covert had also been wiped

out, leaving only the Armorer, leader of the sect reining from her ritualistic forge, picking up the pieces of helmets and other gear left behind.

She declared Din and Grogu a clan of two, placing the foundling in Djarin's care until he could be returned to his people: the Jedi. She also gave Din his signet and a jetpack, an acknowledgement of his ascent among the ranks of the now-fallen covert and his status as a full Mandalorian warrior. After one last fight—with Djarin mastering his new jetpack to battle Gideon head-on, Mandalorian versus TIE fighter—the threat seemed to be neutralized. But Moff Gideon was not so easily bested.



05 The Armorer led a covert of Mandalorians beneath the streets of Nevarro.

06 An Ugnaught named Kuiil became a friend and ally to Din Djarin.

07 Din Djarin and Grogu aboard the *Razor Crest*. Concept art by Nick Gindraux.



*"Although Djarin was resistant to his pull toward the foundling Grogu, his conscience got the better of him."*







## INSIDER INTEL

## The Nomad

While *The Book of Boba Fett* would go on to fill in the gaps of what had transpired between the time Fett was accidentally plunged into the Sarlacc pit in *Star Wars: Return of the Jedi* (1983) and his arrival in Season Two of *The Mandalorian*, his nomadic Tusken robes took inspiration from a film classic. Production designer and Lucasfilm art department executive creative director Doug Chiang has said he modeled his idea of Boba's nomadic garb on Omar Sharif's costume in *Lawrence of Arabia* (1962).

## ▶ THE QUEST

In Season Two, Din's journey took him on a quest to find Grogu's people as well as his own. The series was about to take a turn and reunite fans with some of their favorite characters from books, animation, and film, with several making the leap into live-action for the first time.

In the season premiere, Djarin visited Mos Pelgo where another Mandalorian had been spotted on Tatooine. Instead, he found Marshal Cobb Vanth wearing the recovered beskar armor of the notorious Boba Fett. Vanth challenged Din's beliefs—a lawman in Mandalorian fatigues who didn't subscribe to either the Bounty Hunter Guild code or the doctrine of Djarin's former covert—and after assisting the town in slaying a monstrous krayt dragon, Djarin traded his skills for the return of the precious armor.

In Mos Eisley, Peli Motto (Djarin's friend and occasional babysitter to Grogu), had found a source that could lead the duo to more Mandalorians. But there was a catch—this source was a frog-like alien with a clutch of unfertilized eggs who demanded safe transport to Trask before she would divulge her information, and without subjecting her offspring to the jarring effects of hyperspace. Traveling at sublight speed, the *Razor Crest*

attracted the attention of a couple of pilots of the New Republic who recognized Din's ship as the same rare model involved in that earlier prison break. Crash-landing in an effort to avoid them, Djarin had to contend with repairs and a terrifying horde of ice spiders before they could safely get back on track.

On a Quarren fishing vessel allegedly destined for the secret Mandalorian covert on Trask, Djarin and the child nearly fell prey to a trap, but were rescued by Lady Bo-Katan Kryze and her soldiers. But Din—raised as one of the Children of the Watch, with stringent rules about never removing his armor or showing his true face—didn't believe Bo-Katan, the heir to the throne of Mandalore, was truly Mandalorian after she removed her helmet. However, after saving his skin for a second

09

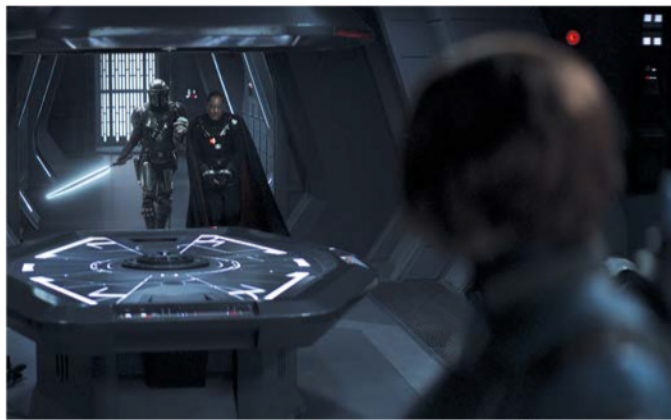






***“Din revealed his true intentions to none other than Ahsoka Tano, Anakin Skywalker’s former Padawan.”***

11



time, the two came to an agreement, embarking on a mission to steal weaponry from an Imperial freighter in exchange for intel that could help lead Grogu back to the Jedi.

After a brief detour to Nevarro, Djarin and his charge headed to the scorched forests of Corvus where the bounty hunter took a job from Magistrate Morgan Elsbeth: Kill the Jedi plaguing her world and gain a coveted beskar spear. But among the trees, Din revealed his true intentions to none other than Ahsoka Tano, Anakin Skywalker’s former Padawan. Communicating through the Force, Ahsoka conveyed Grogu’s sad tale to his protector. Raised at the Jedi Temple on Coruscant during the Republic’s reign, he was hidden when Emperor Palpatine rose to power, dismantling democracy in favor of his new Empire. A survivor of the Jedi Purge, Grogu lived out his days in hiding until he was rescued by Djarin. Ahsoka—a survivor who walked away from the Jedi before Order 66 was invoked—declined to take Grogu on as her own apprentice. But in exchange for Din’s help ridding Corvus of Elsbeth’s regime, she sent him to Tython, where an ancient seeing stone could help Grogu connect to other Jedi survivors through the Force.

## RETURN OF A JEDI

Ironically, Tython also brought Din’s past to their door. Wearing the fatigues of a Tusken

warrior, Boba Fett emerged with his accomplice Fennec Shand, whom Djarin had once left for dead on the sands of Tatooine. While negotiating for the return of his familial armor, the arrival of an Imperial transport forced Fett and Shand to join forces with Djarin in order to defend against their common enemy. In the fray, the *Razor Crest* was destroyed from above and Grogu was kidnapped by Moff Gideon’s dark troopers.

With the help of the convict Migs Mayfeld and Marshal Cara Dune, the motley crew broke into an Imperial mining facility on Morak to access terminal readouts that would help them track down Gideon’s ship. The mission challenged everything Djarin held dear. After years of never removing his helmet in the presence of another living creature, he showed his face in a room full of Imperial soldiers to complete the facial scan that would help him save Grogu. It was a pivotal moment in Djarin’s journey, from lone wolf mercenary to caretaker and defender.

Once more, Djarin gathered together a crew of allies, this time intending to storm Gideon’s light cruiser. Among them, Bo-Katan, Dune, Shand, and Koska Reeves pledged their assistance. For most, the mission was out of loyalty, but for Kryze it was personal. In the course of the Galactic Civil War, Bo-Katan had

## INSIDER INTEL

10

### Ice Spiders

The ice spiders from Season Two of *The Mandalorian* owe their design to original *Star Wars* concept artist Ralph McQuarrie, who created the “bog planet tree creature” in a 1979 concept sketch, and refined in 1993 as a finished artwork for *The Illustrated Star Wars Universe*. The arrival of the spider and her offspring was an homage to another movie monster: the xenomorph from the *Alien* films.

08 Djarin and Grogu found Ahsoka Tano on Corvus. Concept art by Brian Matyas.

09 Marshal Cobb Vanth used Boba Fett’s armor to intimidate anyone that threatened Mos Pelgo.

10 The ice spiders attack! Concept art by Christian Alzmann.

11 Din Djarin wrested control of the Darksaber from Moff Gideon, much to the consternation of Bo-Katan Kryze.



12 Paz Vizsla challenged Din Djarin but failed to win the Darksaber in combat.

## INSIDER INTEL

### The Secret Jedi

Luke Skywalker's appearance in Season Two of *The Mandalorian* was so secret, showrunners commissioned faux concept art showing Grogu's savior was Kel Dor Jedi Plo Koon, a personal favorite of executive producer Dave Filoni. Only a handful of people were let in on the Jedi's true identity before the episode aired, including those on set that day with Mark Hamill. "You see your crew just staring at Mark and you realize that they're remembering what it meant to them," Filoni has said.

lost the Darksaber, and the weapon that had marked the ruler of Mandalore for centuries was now in Gideon's hands.

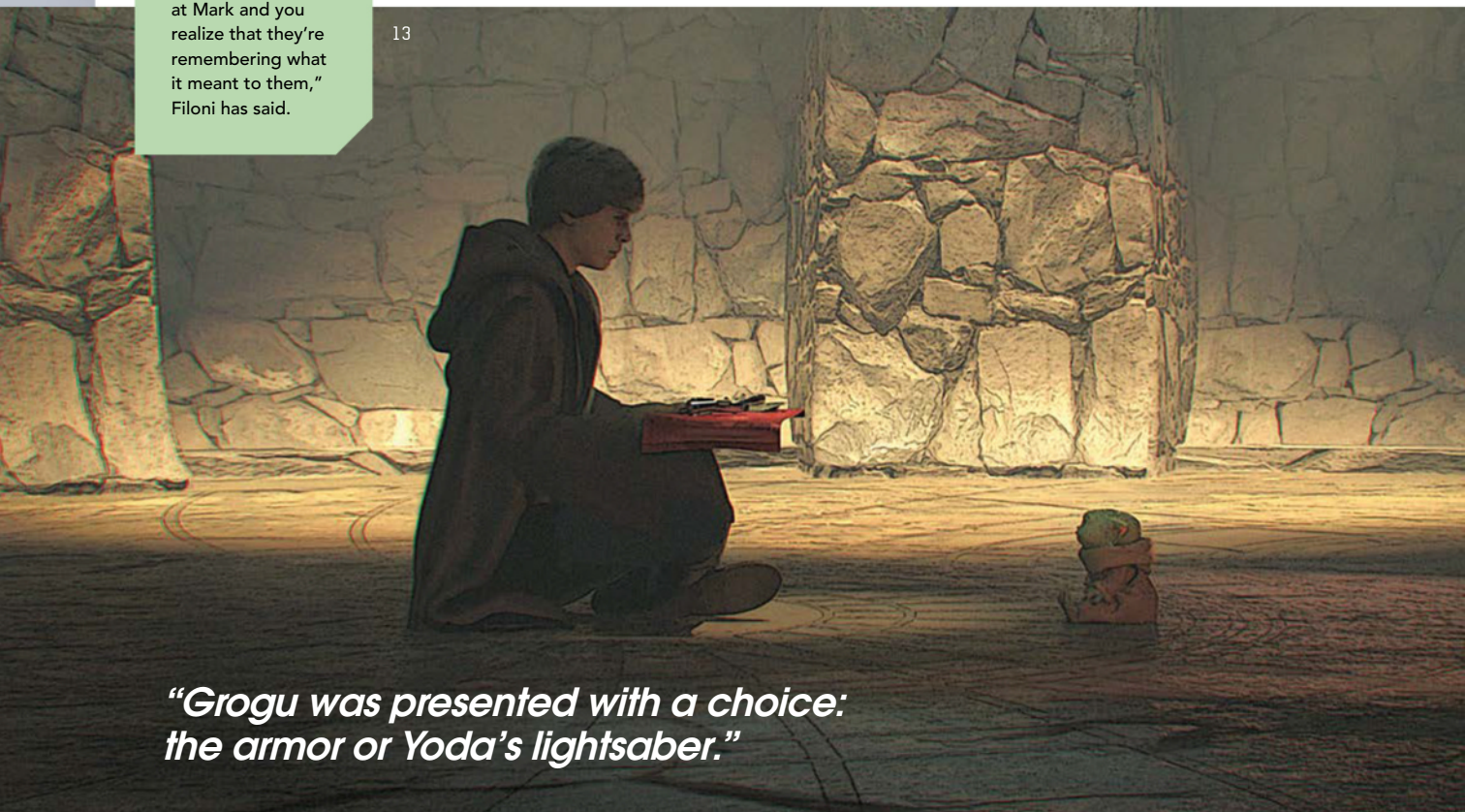
Din succeeded in beating Moff Gideon in hand-to-hand combat, his beskar spear deflecting the Darksaber with relative ease. He freed Grogu and took his foe hostage. However, Gideon's contingent of dark troopers was too much for the small band of fighters to vanquish on their own. Just when the odds seemed dismal, a single X-wing arrived carrying a new reason to hope.

The Jedi Luke Skywalker had heard Grogu's call through the Force. With his green lightsaber ignited, he made quick work of destroying the dark troopers. Then he and R2-D2 took Grogu to be trained at Skywalker's temple on Ossus.

12



13



*"Grogu was presented with a choice: the armor or Yoda's lightsaber."*







What should have been a happy ending for Din and the child was bittersweet. Djarin had succeeded in locating other Mandalorian warriors and he had completed the nearly impossible task of locating a Jedi years after the Order's dissolution. But without the child to give him purpose, Djarin retreated back into his old habits.

### LIFE IN EXILE

Din returned to what little remained of his covert, finding the Armorer and the hulking Paz Vizsla in hiding on the Glavis Ringworld. He went back to the work he understood, hunting down bounties in exchange for credits. But there was a distinct void in his life, a loss of purpose. Not even training with the Darksaber, a weapon foretold to make Djarin the ruler of his scattered people, could give him direction. And once it was revealed that Din had shown his face, revealing his identity in the presence of non-Mandalorians and breaking the creed, the Armorer ordered him exiled from his people.

Rudderless, Djarin returned to Tatooine where Peli Motto was prepping a replacement for his lost ship: a refurbished Naboo N-1 starfighter.

Meanwhile, on Ossus, Grogu was struggling with his attachments to his former life under the

16



tutelage of the Jedi Master Luke Skywalker. With the delivery of a gift from his adopted father—a tiny set of chainmail fashioned from the melted metal of the beskar spear—Grogu was presented with a choice: the armor or Yoda's lightsaber. Both gifts were valuable, but indicative of vastly different paths. Ultimately forsaking the restrictive Jedi doctrine, Grogu chose the armor and was reunited with Din Djarin amid a battle for justice on Tatooine that ended with Daimyo Boba Fett besting the criminal underworld that had profited from the sandy planet for generations.

With Din Djarin and Grogu together again, and the Darksaber still in the Mandalorian's hands, only time will tell where their next mission will take them. Be there as they take flight on March 1, when *The Mandalorian* Season Three premieres on Disney +. 🍷

13 Grogu's dilemma.  
Concept art by  
Christian Alzmann.

14 A job offer awaited  
Din Djarin on Tatooine.  
Concept art by  
Christian Alzmann.

15 Din Djarin and Grogu  
reunited and bound  
for adventure.



# COMPLETE YOUR *STAR WARS:* *THE MANDALORIAN* COLLECTION



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One lucky reader will take control of *Star Wars: Armada*, the game of tactical fleet combat in which players command Imperial or rebel fleets in epic space battles. The Core Set includes, rules, dice, ten unpainted squadrons and three pre-painted ship

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Five runners-up will receive *Star Wars: The Mandalorian Dobble*, the classic game where players must spot matching symbols first to win their opponent's cards. Themed with famous characters, vehicles, and objects from the Disney+ series, Dobble is the perfect game for the budding bounty hunter!

To be in with a chance of winning one of these fantastic prizes, just send us the correct answer to the following tricky *Star Wars* trivia question:

**What was the name of Darth Vader's Super Star Destroyer?**

- A) *Exfoliator*
- B) *Excaliber*
- C) *Executor*

Send your entry marked "ASMODEE GIVEAWAY" via email to [insidercomp@titanemail.com](mailto:insidercomp@titanemail.com) (or by mail to the address printed on page 3) by April 4, 2023. Remember to include your mailing address. Terms and conditions are available at [titan-comics.com](http://titan-comics.com).

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# Let Me See Your IDENTIFICATION

Anthony Forrest played two roles in *A New Hope*, but you never saw his face on screen. The actor and filmmaker tells *Star Wars Insider* how such anonymity has led to cult status among fans of the saga.

WORDS: PAT JANKIEWICZ

B

ased in England during the 1970s and 80s, Canadian filmmaker Anthony

Forrest enjoyed a long and successful acting career, with roles in television and on the silver screen in shows including Gerry Anderson's television sci-fi classic *Space: 1999* (1975-1977), and the James Bond movie *The Spy Who Loved Me* (1977).

"Today, I write and direct films. Film is my passion, and back then I was getting a lot of acting work in British films because of my American accent," says Forrest. "When I auditioned for *Star Wars: A New Hope* (1977), I was working as an actor in London when I got called in by Irene Lamb, who was casting the film. I thought it was going to be a science-fiction film aimed at teenagers. I was called back three times before my agent rang to say I'd got the part."







***"I THOUGHT IT WAS GOING TO BE A SCIENCE-FICTION FILM AIMED AT TEENAGERS."***



01 Forrest played the Imperial stormtrooper (left) who asked for Luke Skywalker's identification in *Mos Eisley*.

02 Fixer (Anthony Forrest) and Camie (Koo Stark) take it easy at Tosche Station in a scene cut from *A New Hope* (1977).

The actor was originally cast as one of Luke Skywalker's friends at Tosche Station: Laze "Fixer" Loneozner, the alpha male in Luke's clique on Tatooine.

"Fixer was described to me as a grease-monkey guy, who worked on fixing droids and other stuff. A mechanic," Forrest explains. "He was also very protective of his girlfriend Camie Marstrap (played by Koo Stark), and very dismissive of Luke, who he called 'Wormy.' Despite our character's on-screen relationship, Mark Hamill and I got along well. He has a great sense of humor."

### **Lost In The Cut**

Forrest's scenes were shot in Tunisia, the North African country that became Tatooine for the film, and the actor enjoyed the freewheeling on-set experience.

"One of the things that I find interesting when I look back at the making of *A New Hope* is that, despite being a studio picture, the energy and immediacy of the filmmaking had the spirit and feel

of an independent production," he says. "George Lucas would come by and personally add more dirt to our costumes, especially to Luke's friend's clothes. If you think about the story, Luke and his uncle were harvesting water, so it makes sense that they weren't going to waste any cleaning everything, or washing the landspeeder, because on Tatooine water was obviously precious and in short supply. Those small but important details are what great filmmaking is all about. George wanted to make sure that the look was right."

"The visuals are one of the greatest things about the *Star Wars* world—it wasn't spotless and clean. It was more of a galaxy in decay. That's one of the things that makes *Star Wars* feel more real than most sci-fi movies," the actor adds.

The Tosche Station scenes didn't make the theatrical cut of *A New Hope*, but Forrest remains sanguine about their omission. "I didn't know until I saw *Star Wars* for the first time at a cast and crew screening that my scenes were not in the final



► film, which was a bit disappointing” he says. “As time passed, a mystique was built up around the Fixer and Biggs deleted scenes. Had they been left in the film I don’t think people would have focused as much attention on them as they receive now. ‘The lost scenes of *Star Wars*’ has become a hot topic.”

In *A Long Time Ago, in a Cutting Room Far, Far Away*, Oscar-winning *A New Hope* editor Paul Hirsch’s autobiography, he revealed that 20th Century Fox head Alan Ladd, Jr. had found the teenage hangout scene delayed the progress of the film’s primary narrative. However, Tosche Station and its characters made it into both the Marvel Comics’ adaptation and the novelization of the film. “I never actually saw the comic, but I was happy to learn those scenes were in it. I did know my character was in the novelization, though.”

### Moving Along

A second role in the film unexpectedly came Forrest’s way before he’d even shot his part as Fixer—that of the stormtrooper

**“A MYSTIQUE WAS BUILT UP AROUND THE FIXER AND BIGGS DELETED SCENES.”**



03 Luke Skywalker (Mark Hamill) with Fixer (Forrest), Camie (Stark) and Biggs (Garrick Hagon) in another deleted scene.

04 Fixer’s scenes at Tosche Station saw the light of day in the Marvel Comics adaptation of the movie.

04



in Mos Eisley who famously asked Luke Skywalker for his identification and was immediately bamboozled by Obi-Wan Kenobi’s Jedi mind trick.

“One day, Robert Watts (*A New Hope*’s production supervisor) came up to me and said, ‘George Lucas has asked if you could come

down to the set, right away.’ I knew that we weren’t filming our scenes yet, so I said yes, wondering what he needed me for. When I arrived, George said, ‘Listen, can you do me a favor? Can you put this uniform on and do a little scene for me? Don’t worry, you’ll be wearing a helmet, so no

one will know it’s you.”

For Forrest, the most compelling reason for accepting the additional part was the opportunity to play a scene against a British acting legend.

“As an actor, it was a thrill for me because I got to work with Sir Alec Guinness,” smiles Forrest. “They had been using locals and stuntmen to play the stormtroopers, but my impression was that Sir Alec had asked for an actor to do the scene with him, so he would have feedback from another performer to play against. I found him to be a very sweet man. Even years later, if ever our paths crossed, he would always stop and have a chat.”

Forrest was handed the script for the scene and went through his new lines as the costume department dressed him in his stormtrooper armor.

“They had already set up the shot while I was being driven to the set, and we filmed it really fast.



They pretty much dressed me on the spot. The armor was made from vacuum-formed plastic and the parts kept knocking into each other, so it was hard to walk in, and the boots were uncomfortable. Being a stormtrooper in Tunisia was difficult!" Forrest admits.

"But the hardest part was that I had a sunburn underneath the costume," he recalls, ruefully. "Back in England we hadn't seen sunshine in a while, so as soon as I saw some sun in Tunisia, I went out in it and got badly burned! Shoulder pads on a sunburn really hurt.

"The heat was a problem for all of us, which is why there's that photograph of me with my helmet off, being fed water. I can only imagine how Alec Guinness must have felt, wearing such a heavy cloak."

05 A behind the scenes photograph revealed Forrest's turn as the easily fooled trooper.

06 "You can go about your business. Move along. Move along."



05

## "BEING A STORMTROOPER IN TUNISIA WAS DIFFICULT!"

### Cult Appeal

While Fixer's fame was ensured by his appearance in the comics and novelization, Forrest's turn as a stormtrooper remained largely unknown until that very photograph entered the public domain and fans identified the actor. Thus, his cult status was assured.

"There weren't that many stormtroopers with speaking roles in the first film, so when it came out that the one Obi-Wan Kenobi hypnotized with the Force was me, people like the 501st Legion (the group of dedicated fans who dress as stormtroopers at public and charitable events) became interested," says the actor. "Now

that they know it's me behind the mask, people come up to me when I do things like *Star Wars* Celebration and give me stormtrooper action figures as gifts.

"I had no idea *Star Wars* would be so big, or that my few lines of dialogue would go worldwide," Forrest laughs. "They pop up everywhere, in movies, on TV, as internet memes. I have no doubt 'These aren't the droids you're looking for,' and 'Move along' are going to be on my tombstone! I was in the right place at the right time. That's happened a couple times in my life. But to have worked on the first *Star Wars* with George Lucas is something I'll always be proud of." 🙌



06



### THE RETURN OF FIXER

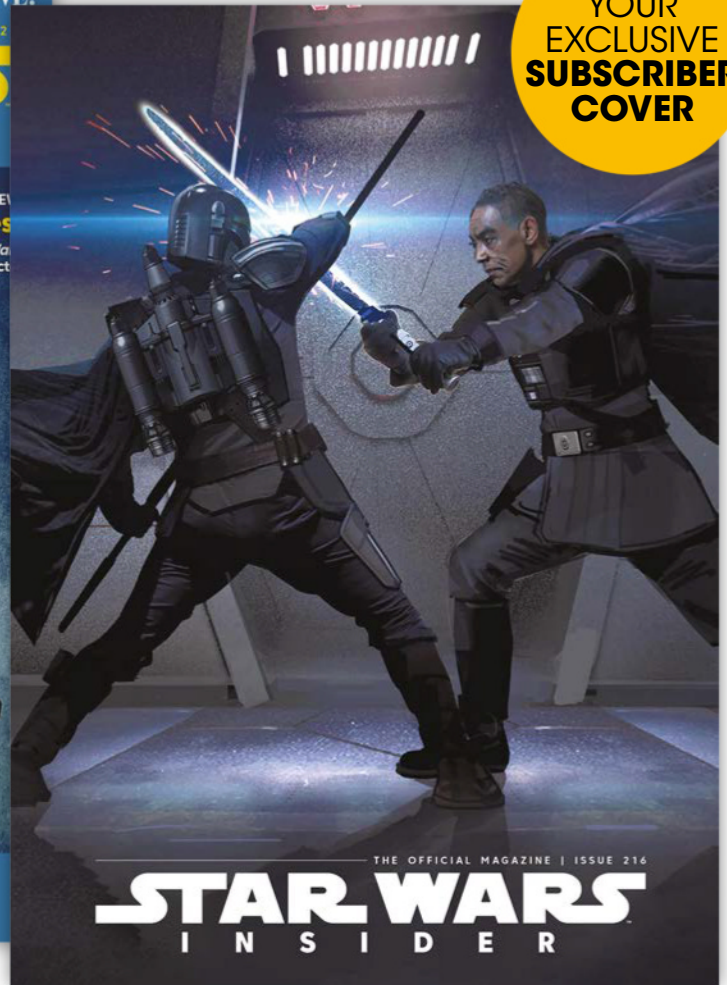
Fixer and Camie made a surprise comeback in Chapter 2 of *The Book of Boba Fett* (2021), "The Tribes of Tatooine." This time the mechanic was played by Skyler Bible, while his girlfriend was portrayed by Mandy Kowalksi. Still regulars at Tosche Station, the pair were attacked by a gang of Nikto until Boba Fett arrived on the scene and put a stop to the drunken thugs' antisocial behavior.



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# THE BEST OF THE BATCH



As we gear up for the debut of *The Bad Batch* Season 2 on Disney+, *Star Wars Insider* explores with the admirable attributes that make the troopers of Clone Force 99 a team to be reckoned with.

WORDS: BRANDON WAINERDI

F

ormerly a specialist unit fighting for the Republic during the Clone Wars, each of the elite quintet of troopers known as the Bad Batch had a special genetic mutation that set them apart from their fellow clones. Hunter's keen senses made him

an excellent tactician, Tech provided enhanced intelligence, Wrecker was a tower of strength, and Crosshair's aim was always dependable—until he swapped sides. Even new recruit Echo's cybernetics literally opened doors. They were the ultimate weapons in any fight, but as we learned in Season 1, they were also so much more. Joined by their sibling,

Omega, they navigated an ever-changing galaxy, their world quickly transforming from a familiar Republic into a chilling Empire. Their journey across the first season's sixteen episodes saw them discovering who they were, both as individuals and as a family, all the while revealing hidden qualities that defined the Batch as true heroes.



# A SENSE OF PURPOSE

## EPISODE 1 "AFTERMATH"



■ The de-facto leader of Clone Force 99 was the stoic Hunter. His senses and tactical skills had been greatly enhanced due to genetic mutations during the cloning process, giving him an edge over almost any foe, and the confidence to question orders and then act accordingly.

When sent to the planet Kaller to assist Jedi Master Depa Billaba and her Padawan Caleb Dume in a battle with Separatist forces, the Bad Batch's final mission of the Clone Wars took a sudden turn after their 'brothers' laid waste to the very same Jedi they were sent to protect.

Finding themselves caught in the crossfire of Palpatine's sinister Order 66, each member of the Bad Batch was forced to make a choice: follow orders or do what was right. Hunter recognized that the mandate to kill all Jedi had to be wrong, leading to his pivotal decision to lie about Dume's death, allowing the Padawan to escape across a ravine without being further pursued.

This choice, consistent with Hunter's admirable sense of purpose and loyalty, had a cost, as it led to the fracturing of his Clone Force 99 family when Crosshair left the team in protest. It also had an outcome that he could never have anticipated—Dume went into hiding and renamed himself Kanan Jarrus, eventually becoming a pivotal member of the burgeoning Rebel Alliance.



# FIVE AGAINST AN EMPIRE

## EPISODE 1 "AFTERMATH"



■ After the disarray on Kaller, Hunter, Echo, Wrecker, Tech, and Crosshair returned to their home on Kamino, but suddenly found themselves in a very different environment to the one they were used to. As they walked the halls

of Tipoca City, they noticed the "regs" (regular clone troopers) settling into a sense of uniformity, cold and unfriendly, and stripped of personalized items of armor with which many had previously expressed their individuality. The clones



had already become unquestioning soldiers of the soon-to-be-declared Empire.

While on Kamino, they were forced to further prove their mettle in this rapidly changing world. The Bad Batch found themselves engaged in a familiar battle simulation inside the Kaminoan training facility. This time, however, at the request of Admiral Tarkin practice rounds had been switched with live ammunition. Armed only with training weapons, the Batch did what they do best: they worked together. With their communication and trust in one another, they escaped the treacherous test with only a few scratches and dents.





"WITH A HEART AS BIG AS HIS MUSCLES, WRECKER SHOWED AN UNEXPECTED SOFT SIDE."

## WRECKING CREW

### EPISODE 3 "REPLACEMENTS"

■ Huge, powerful, and lumbering, the towering Wrecker consistently exhibited incredible might. Invaluable in battle, he could be relied upon to take out swaths of enemies in any given encounter, clearing the path for his squad to emerge victorious. But while it would be all too easy to consider such displays of physical strength as Wrecker's key attribute, there was more to the muscular clone than brute force.

A close bond was already forming between Wrecker and Omega after just a few missions together, which their shared taste for delicious Mantell Mix would only deepen as time went on. With a heart as big as his muscles, Wrecker showed an unexpected soft side when he took it upon himself to build Omega her own room onboard the Bad Batch's ship, the *Marauder*. Remodeling what was once the gunner's nest,



Wrecker proved that actions speak louder than words, welcoming his sister to the squad by giving Omega something she had never had on Kamino—a private space to call her own.

## TECH CHECK

### EPISODE 6 "DECOMMISSIONED"

■ As the "brains" of the Bad Batch, Tech was always a vital member of the team, with deep technical knowledge to call upon and an ability to improvise in a pinch.

While on a daring operation to retrieve a valuable Separatist tactical droid from a Corellian decommissioning site, they found themselves competing for the prize with sisters Trace and Rafa Martez and pursued by a seemingly endless supply of police droids after an alarm was raised. Realizing they'd need an army of their own to fight back and escape, Trace suggested they use the tactical droid to control the ranks of decommissioned battle droids all around them. It was up to Tech and his incredible skills to make that plan a reality, and he wasted no time in quickly reprogramming the droid and boosting

its signal. The plan worked, but the unit was damaged beyond repair during the melee. Luckily Tech had had the foresight to make a copy of the vital data, which Hunter gifted to Trace and Rafa to support the burgeoning rebellion.







# LOYALTY ABOVE ALL

## EPISODE 8 "REUNION" EPISODE 14 "WAR MANTLE"

■ As the relationship between Omega and the Bad Batch grew, so too did their sense of loyalty and protection towards one another. This was rarely clearer than on several occasions when Hunter made the decision to sacrifice himself to safeguard his squad and his sister.

When the bounty hunter Cad Bane made a surprise appearance on the planet Bracca, hired to capture Omega for an

unknown paymaster, Hunter bravely squared off against the formidable sharpshooter in an effort to protect the girl. He wasn't quick enough to beat Bane, who escaped with his prize, but Hunter's only concern upon regaining consciousness was to save his sister, despite the injuries he'd sustained.

Later, during a tense attempt to rescue clone commander Gregor from



a secret Imperial base on Daro, Hunter became separated from his squad as they made their escape. Alone on the forest floor and surrounded by Imperial troops, Hunter ordered his friends to leave him behind, even as Tech desperately tried to reach his brother in the *Marauder*. Facing certain capture, Hunter's command saved his squad from a similar fate.

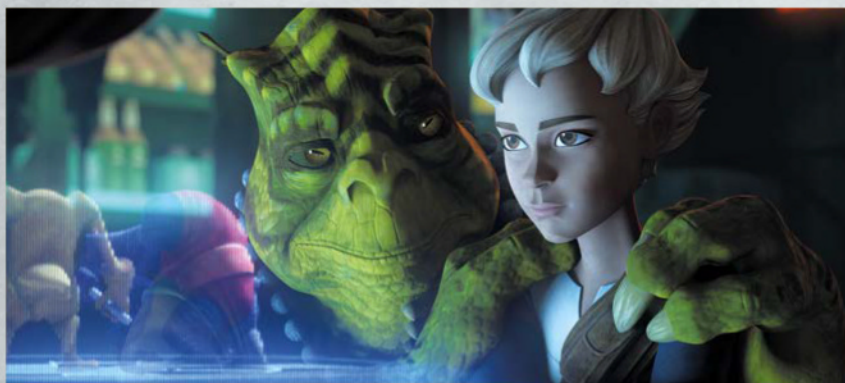
"HUNTER BRAVELY  
SQUARED OFF  
AGAINST THE  
FORMIDABLE  
SHARPSHOOTER."

■ Having spent her short life working with Nala Se on Kamino, Omega had never experienced the wonders of the galaxy firsthand. That would soon change when she became a member of the Bad Batch, as she visited dangerous worlds, made new friends, and deadlier enemies. Her sense of wonder continued to grow and evolve, as did her yearning to become a more actively action-oriented member of the squad, armed with a Zygerrian energy bow she'd acquired on her adventures.

# MIND OVER MATTER

## EPISODE 10 "COMMON GROUND"

However, it was Omega's intelligence and incredible propensity for strategy and understanding people that showed her best qualities and helped set her newfound family on the course to true freedom. In debt to Cid, the Batch



had been spending their time running missions for the Trandoshan, often leaving Omega behind for safekeeping. It was while they were offworld on one such assignment that she picked up the rules of dejarik and began winning game after game at Cid's Parlor. In fact, Cid made so much money off the back of Omega's propensity for dejarik that she considered the Batch's debt paid in full.



# THE BOLD & THE BRAVE

## EPISODE 12 "RESCUE ON RYLOTH"

■ Stationed on Ryloth, Captain Howzer showed the kind of bravery that would earn him the respect of the Bad Batch.

Having spent many months defending Ryloth's citizens against Separatist forces, Howzer suddenly found himself under orders to subjugate those self-same people as a soldier for the Empire. He began to question his purpose and commitment



to what was right and just, concerned that the Empire stood for something else entirely. When the moment came to pick a side, he chose to help the Batch and the Syndulla family make their escape while he provided a distraction by rejoining his brothers in arms.

Howzer stepped into the firing line, challenging his fellow clones to question their role in this new galaxy. Exhibiting courage and determination, he laid down his weapon and asked, "Brothers, what are we doing?" adding, "Who will stand with me?" Inspired by his words, some of his brothers followed suit.



■ Echo's life had literally been transformed when he was captured and imprisoned by the Techno Union during the Clone Wars. Weakened and tortured, he was turned into a cyborg before finally being rescued by Clone Force 99, Captain Rex, and General Anakin Skywalker.

Echo's acceptance as a member of the Bad Batch was an enormous source of pride for him, and he quickly became an incredible resource for the squad. His cybernetic enhancements, experience as an ARC trooper, and extensive knowledge of battle tactics were often vital to the success of their missions.

# ECHOES OF THE PAST

## EPISODE 14 "WAR MANTLE"



However, it was his empathy that was his greatest strength, especially evident when sent on a mission by Rex to rescue Gregor, a fellow clone commando who was being used by the Empire to train its clone trooper replacements. Echo

knew firsthand what it was like to be imprisoned by an enemy and did everything in his power to make sure that Gregor was set free, determined never to allow such a horrible fate befall another of his brothers.





“CROSSHAIR HAD BEEN ESTRANGED FROM THE BAD BATCH FOR SOME TIME WHEN THEIR PATHS CROSSED AGAIN ON KAMINO.”

## OFF TARGET?

### EPISODE 16 “KAMINO LOST”

■ Having chosen to align himself with the Empire, Crosshair had been estranged from the Bad Batch for some time when their paths crossed again on Kamino. But as the city buckled under arial bombardment from an Imperial Star Destroyer, he was begrudgingly forced to fight alongside his former squad in order to survive the chaos surrounding them.

As they battled their way through collapsing passageways and sought shelter in medical capsules, it seemed like the original Bad Batch was together again, at last. Reunited with his brothers, the turncoat used his sharp-shooting skills to rescue a drowning Omega and her droid AZI-3, and, for a moment at least, it seemed like he would once again rejoin his family.

However, as the Bad Batch prepared to leave their birthplace for the last time aboard the *Marauder*, Crosshair elected to return to the Empire, but with the words of Omega giving him pause to perhaps reconsider his choices: “You’re still their brother, Crosshair. You’re my brother too.”



## TEAM PLAYERS

■ Throughout their adventures, the moments that truly defined the Bad Batch were when they showed their trust in one another, and, although they might not be inclined to say

it out loud, their love. In any given situation, each member of the team looked out for their brothers and sister, and placed complete trust in their skills and instincts. If nothing

else in a challenging galaxy, every one of them knew they could rely on the other members of Clone Force 99. No matter what, they were a family, and they had each other. 🤝





01 Dawn Diner as the Tusken Raider's Rodian prisoner in *The Book of Boba Fett* (2021).



# DAWN DININGER: FULL TIME FABRICATOR, PART TIME RODIAN

**Insider speaks to Legacy Effects creature fabricator Dawn Dininger about making creature costumes and wearing them on camera!**

WORDS: PAT JANKIEWICZ

“I

have loved horror and effects movies since my big sister, Terri, showed me

*The Hand* (Oliver Stone’s 1981 severed-limb chiller) when I was 4 years old,” giggles Dawn Dininger, a specialty costume manufacturer at Legacy Effects, the Hollywood effects house responsible for numerous creatures and droids seen in Disney+ shows including *The Mandalorian* (2019 - ) and *The Book of Boba Fett* (2021). “It gave me nightmares! I dreamed about a hand crawling into my bed while I slept. No wonder my mom didn’t want me watching it!

“I am a creature fabricator on the shows,” Dininger explains about her role on

“I HAVE NEVER BEEN SO NERVOUS TO SHOW A SUIT TO ANYBODY AS I WAS WITH KRRSANTAN.”

*The Book of Boba Fett* and *The Mandalorian*. “That means I’m given a creature design and I make a muscle suit for the character, and sometimes a fur suit to go over the muscle suit. The job involves sewing, lots of sewing, and carving muscles out of foam with razor blades, to bring the creature to life.”

One of those creatures, who made his first live-action appearance in the *Boba Fett*

series, was the Wookiee warrior and mercenary Krrsantan.

“He’s among the creatures that I am most proud of working on,” says Dininger. “I made a lot of Krrsantan’s body from the neck down, over the muscle suit. Legacy artist Trevor Hinsley and I figured out how to do his bandolier, which the guys in the mold shop molded all the squares for. Some of the guys in the shop came up with the scar over Krrsantan’s eye in the sculpt and the paint. I loved his look—he’s a different kind of Wookiee.

“Building that suit was a blast. I have never been so nervous to show a suit to anybody as I was with Krrsantan, because I truly wanted everyone to like it when he walked on set,” Dininger admits. “He was played by my Legacy colleague Carey Jones, who is an effects guy himself, so he never complained about wearing such a big, hairy costume.” ▶





02

### ► The Rodian Prisoner

"I always liked *Star Wars*. My dog is a pug named Vader!" Dininger reveals, speaking of the thrill of becoming involved with a *Star Wars* project, let alone more than one. "I'd never thought I would

get to work on *Star Wars*, because the sequels were all being made in England," she says. What she'd expected even less was the chance to play several *Star Wars* creatures on-screen herself.

02 The Tusken's  
03 prisoners  
trekked  
across the  
desert  
in search  
of moisture  
pods.



03

"I was in the creature shop when they asked us for performer recommendations to give to casting. We always like to use people we've worked with before, because we know they can handle the headpieces we often have to put them in. My friend, Tamara Carlson Woodard, said, 'Well, Dawn's the right size!' and Damon Weathers, Legacy's studio coordinator, said 'She is!' He gave the casting department my name, and they asked me to send in a creature reel. I have been werewolves, zombies, vampires and ghosts before, but being a *Star Wars* creature—especially a recognizable species of *Star Wars* creature—was a dream come true!"

Dininger played the Tusken Raider's Rodian prisoner who raised the alarm when Boba Fett attempted to escape their clutches in the first episode of *The Book of Boba Fett*, 'Stranger in a Strange Land.'

"The Rodian was the very first creature I played on the show. We shot the scenes over seven days, including pickup shots," recalls



**"WORKING WITH TEMUERA WAS GREAT, YOU COULDN'T ASK FOR ANYBODY BETTER."**

### THE BANTHA'S BRAIN

Banthas made a comeback in *The Book of Boba Fett*, but this time they weren't played by an elephant in a shaggy costume. A huge puppet took on the role instead, and Dawn Dininger found herself inside.

"That was really cool," Dininger marvels. "I got to puppeteer the bantha, which was pretty big. It took three people to operate the creature, with two people on the inside and one on the outside. I did all the head movements and someone else moved his mouth, while his eyes were operated from the outside by remote control."



04

Dininger. "I've worn animatronic heads before—and they're really heavy because of all the gear inside—but that Rodian mask was great. It wasn't animatronic, so it was much lighter than most creature heads, and I could breathe through the mouth. It was really hot outside, so when I needed an 'air break,' I could just pop out one of the eyes to take a breather and cool off!"

Dininger took the performance aspect of her unexpected creature role very seriously and prepared in advance of rehearsals.

"I made up my own Rodian language so that I could respond to Temuera Morrison (Boba Fett) when he spoke to my character," she explains. "I took inspiration from Greedo's dialogue in the cantina scene in *A New Hope* (1977), and made up two whole index cards full of stuff in 'Rodian' that I could say. Tem would speak his lines and I would go 'Ur ga gla gla' back at him. It was fun, but ultimately, we found it was easier for me to just speak in English."

### Death In The Sand

In the same episode, the Tusken Raiders made Boba Fett and the Rodian trek across the sand dunes, searching for buried pods containing moisture. "Those were hard scenes to shoot. Picking up my legs and moving my feet to get up those dunes was exhausting," Dininger recalls.

05

04 Boba Fett (Temuera Morrison) astride his bantha.

05 Dawn Dininger (facing camera) inside the giant bantha puppet, operating its head movements.





06

► “Because the characters were chained together, I couldn’t let myself fall too far behind Tem because the chain would go taught and I’d trip over. There was one time where I accidentally stepped on the chain and made Tem trip and fall. When he got up, he said, ‘That looked natural!’ And that’s the shot

## FROG LADY FOOTWEAR

The Frog Lady was another popular character that Dininger was involved with both as a fabricator and puppeteer.

“I had so much fun on Frog Lady,” she says. “My colleague Tamara mainly did her costume, but I made the Frog Lady’s shoes! Tamara and I both got to puppeteer the Frog Lady when she was on set. Tamara operated her eyes while I moved her mouth. I kept catching myself making the Frog Lady’s facial expressions myself as I puppeteered her—whenever she was excited, scared, or freaking out, I made the same expressions!”



07

## Bith In The Band

“One of the coolest things about doing creatures for *The Book of Boba Fett* and *The Mandalorian* was that we got to use some of Lucasfilm’s physical assets from their Archive, such as old masks and props from the previous *Star Wars* movies. Those characters can be seen in the background in those shows,” says Dininger. “It was so exciting when we opened up a crate because we never knew what we were going to find inside. We’d crack open each one, wondering, ‘Who is this gonna be?’”

“The design work on those older masks was amazing,” says Dininger. “Looking at so many weird creatures from the films, we couldn’t help but start getting nosy, wondering how they were made. Did they create them like we would? I found myself thinking, ‘Wow, I’m going to try that technique next time!’”

Both series are peppered with familiar faces in the background for eagle-eyed fans to spot.

“There are a lot of cool aliens that don’t always get much attention,” Dininger says. “So, when they do, I love it!”

Another personal highpoint for the effects-artist-turned-actor was when she got to perform as another recognizable creature

that they ended up using in the episode!

“Working with Temuera was great, you couldn’t ask for anybody better to act with. He was calm, and the energy he and Ming-Na Wen (Fennec Shand) had together made it a really fun show to work on.”

Tragically, an encounter with a Tatooine sand beast saw Dininger’s Rodian torn in half.

“My Rodian didn’t live long enough to get a name, but I was so excited to have a death scene!” Dininger enthuses.”

06 Dininger’s Rodian met a sticky end in *The Book of Boba Fett* (2021).

07 Dawn Dininger of *Legacy Effects*.





08



09

08 Dininger also played the Rodian mom on Din Djarin's flight to Tatooine.

09 Figrin D'an and the Modal Nodes in *A New Hope* (1977).

10 A Bith musician, played by Dininger.

**"THE DESIGN WORK ON THOSE OLD MASKS WAS AMAZING."**

from *A New Hope*—a member of the band performing at Garsa Fwip's Sanctuary. "I got a call at home one night, asking if I'd be willing to play a Bith on set the following day. I said 'Of Course!' I mean, come on—Figrin D'an and the Modal Nodes were the most legendary band in all of *Star Wars*! The Bith are instantly recognizable. And it was really fun," Dininger smiles. "I got to be the Bith playing the clarinet-looking instrument in the club. I was only in the band for one day, but I was so excited to be there!" 🥰

10





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# A CERTAIN POINT OF VIEW

Our resident *Star Wars* expert, Jay Stobie, consults his library of holocrons and ancient Jedi texts to answer your questions about the events, people,

Concept art by Christian Alzmann

**"I've seen many people drinking delicious-looking blue milk in *Star Wars*. It made me wonder about what other culinary dishes are popular in the galaxy far, far away?"**  
**Izumi Hirobe, Japan**

From the refreshing blue milk that Beru Lars served on Tatooine to the elegant jogan fruitcakes popular on Coruscant, a diverse array of food and drink populated dining tables across the *Star Wars* galaxy. Even Darth Vader and Boba Fett knew enough about etiquette to put together a "welcome" feast for Han Solo, Leia Organa, and Chewbacca on

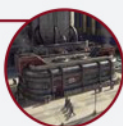
Cloud City! With that being said, let's take a look at a selection of the beverages, snacks, appetizers, meals, and desserts enjoyed from the Core Worlds to the Outer Rim.

How about beginning with something to quench our thirst? While more accustomed to the delights of blue milk, Luke Skywalker also harvested a green variety from Ahch-To's native thala-siren population. The waiting staff at Dex's Diner offered Obi-Wan Kenobi some Jawa Juice prior to his excursion to Kamino, while chav tea was a beverage known to be consumed on Jedha. On a more basic level, we should not forget the importance of water. After all, the

## Exciting Eateries

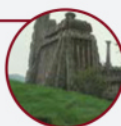
### Dex's Diner

Owned by Dexter Jettster, Dex's Diner served customers on the bustling world of Coruscant. A close friend of Obi-Wan Kenobi, Dexter provided the Jedi with vital information about the origins of a Kaminoan saberdart that had been used to kill the assassin Zam Wesell following an attempt on Padmé Amidala's life.



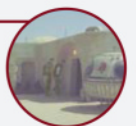
### Maz's Castle

Han Solo brought Rey and Finn to Maz Kanata's establishment with hopes of connecting with the Resistance. Maz considered Han a friend and held a special affinity for Chewbacca, but the jovial reunion was soon interrupted by a First Order attack that left the castle in ruins and Han, Chewie, and Finn in custody.



### Mos Eisley Cantina

Situated amidst the scum and villainy of Tatooine's notorious spaceport, the Cantina served an unexpected role in galactic history. In search of transport to Alderaan, Obi-Wan Kenobi and Luke Skywalker first met Han Solo and Chewbacca at the watering hole, a fateful encounter that eventually spelled the end of the Empire.

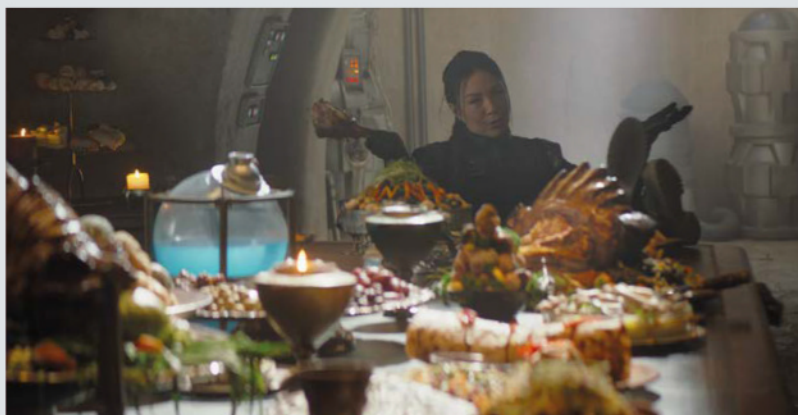






first thing a parched Finn sought out after his journey through Jakku's desert was a drink of water. Fortunately, the former stormtrooper found a happabore that was somewhat willing to share their supply.

For those looking for a stronger drink, Lando Calrissian's *Millennium Falcon* was kitted out with its own bar prior to the Kessel Run. Dryden Vos provided quanya reserve to guests aboard his yacht, while the coaxium-processing residents of Savareen created their own brandy. Seen throughout *The Mandalorian* (2019 - ), krill-based spotchka could be found from Sorgan to Tatooine. ▶



### Cid's Parlor

Located on Ord Mantell and owned by the Trandoshan known as Cid, the parlor offered food, drink, and gambling opportunities to its patrons. Cid also utilized the building to conduct backroom deals and hire professionals, such as the clone unit known as the Bad Batch, for dangerous jobs.



### Fort Ypso's Lodge

The ornate wooden lodge acted as a popular destination for the residents of the Fort Ypso settlement on the planet Vandor. Han Solo, Qi'ra, Chewbacca, and Tobias Beckett sought out a ship at the location and eventually recruited Lando Calrissian and L3-37 to take them to Kessel aboard the *Millennium Falcon*.







- Cobb Vanth ordered the blue-tinged beverage for himself and Din Djarin when Freetown was still known as Mos Pelgo.

### Tasty Nibbles

Snacks and light fare were an important way to stay energized in between meals. Jabba the Hutt maintained a menagerie of small creatures to nibble on while holding court. Yoda became almost giddy when he discovered Luke Skywalker's ration pack on Dagobah. Fruit was also a popular snack—Flint-rind figs and other fruit-filled sacks took up space in Lando's treadable on Pasaana, and the *Ghost* crew favored meiloorun fruits when they were not busy rebelling against the Empire, while Omega and Wrecker enjoyed Ord Mantell's signature Mantell Mix whenever they returned from missions.

To satiate his guests prior to the main course, Dryden Vos kept a healthy store of colo claw fish available. Yoda cooked up rootleaf stew during Luke's first visit to Dagobah, whereas Grogu sipped a nice bone broth at the Sorgan Common House. Certain meals could be pre-made, such as the dehydrated ration packs Rey received from Unkar Plutt. Consisting of veg-meat and polystarch, Plutt scavenged the portions from Republic and Imperial military stores.

More filling dishes ranged from the

Ardennian mynock roasts mentioned by Rio Durant, and the bountiful seafood including fleek eels and scalefin fish sold at the Corellian fish markets in Coronet spaceport. An exiled Luke procured many of his meals from Ahch-To's oceans, spearfishing for spetan channelfish, while Chewbacca hoped to feast on roast porg, but his guilt consumed him so much he just couldn't go through with it. During his own time in hiding, Obi-Wan worked at a station processing meat from an enormous tibidon sand whale. Jannah's isolated team of defectors also harvested from nature, hunting and fishing to survive on Kef Bir in the Endor system.

As one would imagine, there were as many dishes on the menu in the *Star Wars* galaxy as there were species populating it, with something to suit every taste. 🍷



## TASTY TASKS

### 32 BSW4:

While walking through a market in Mos Espa, Jar Jar Binks got himself into trouble after he attempted to use his tongue to snatch a deep-fried gorg from one of the outdoor vendors.

### 21 BSW4:

Hoping to impress Senator Aang prior to a crucial vote, Padmé Amidala sent C-3PO and R2-D2 out to fetch jogan fruit to be placed atop a jogan fruitcake, Aang's favorite dessert.

### 5 BSW4:

Tasked with procuring supplies by Hera Syndulla, Ezra Bridger and Zeb Orrelios endured harrowing encounters with Imperial forces on Lothal in order to steal a batch of meiloorun fruits.

### 0 BSW4:

As he discussed his future with Uncle Owen and Aunt Beru over dinner on Tatooine, a young Luke Skywalker sipped on a glass of blue milk to accompany his meal.

### 9 ASW4:

On the run from the Bounty Hunters Guild, Din Djarin and Grogu decided to hide out on the distant world of Sorgan, where Djarin purchased a soup-like bone broth for Grogu to consume.

### 34 ASW4:

Rey prepared a military kit ration pack that she had obtained from Unkar Plutt on Jakku. The dehydrated meal consisted of veg-meat and polystarch.



## Memorable Maws

At times, it was humans and humanoids who found themselves on the menu. During the Trade Federation's blockade of Naboo, an opee sea killer almost consumed Qui-Gon Jinn, Obi-Wan Kenobi, and Jar Jar Binks in the planet's depths. Similarly, a garbage-dwelling dianoga made a hungry grab for Luke Skywalker on the Death Star.

The *Millennium Falcon* had numerous close encounters. A summa-verminoth nearly consumed the ship during its legendary Kessel Run, the starship later narrowly escaped the jaws of a space slug following the Battle of Hoth, and the *Falcon's* crew dealt with ravenous rathtars aboard the freighter *Eravana*.

## WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?

Send your in-galaxy queries to [starwarsinsider@titanemail.com](mailto:starwarsinsider@titanemail.com) with the subject header, "A Certain Point of View."





In this lavishly illustrated collectors edition, **Benedict Cumberbatch** (Doctor Strange), **Elizabeth Olsen** (The Scarlet Witch), Xochitl Gomez (America Chavez), **Benedict Wong** (Wong), and other members of the cast and crew, reveal the secrets behind the creation of Marvel Studios' most outlandish film to date.

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# STAR WARS INSIDER WORLDWIDE

CELEBRATING THE SAGA

## ALWAYS ‘TUDOR’ THERE ARE

Shakespearean style with a *Star Wars* twist



**A**rt often inspires more art, and such was the case with Maria Maychack and Beau Hickey's decision to create a cosplay mash-up of *Star Wars* and Shakespeare.

"The idea was born from a conversation we had while driving home from a convention," shares Maychack. "*Star Wars* and historical clothing came up because I had received Ian Doescher's book *William Shakespeare's Star Wars Trilogy* for Christmas, and it had inspired me to make a Tudor-style dress."

Maychack was unsure which *Star Wars* characters to base her design on, and Hickey suggested R2-D2 and a red-armed C-3PO. Maychack scoured the internet for reference images of Tudor clothing and gravitated towards representations of Anne Boleyn and Henry VIII from pop culture and historical artifacts.





## INSIDER NEEDS YOU!

We want to hear from you! Tell us about your *Star Wars* experience. What made you want to become a fan? What have you done in the name of *Star Wars*? Tell us your *Star Wars* story by sending your photos, art, and letters here:

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After selecting silk dupioni and velvet as the fabrics, she constructed every piece, from undergarments to outerwear.

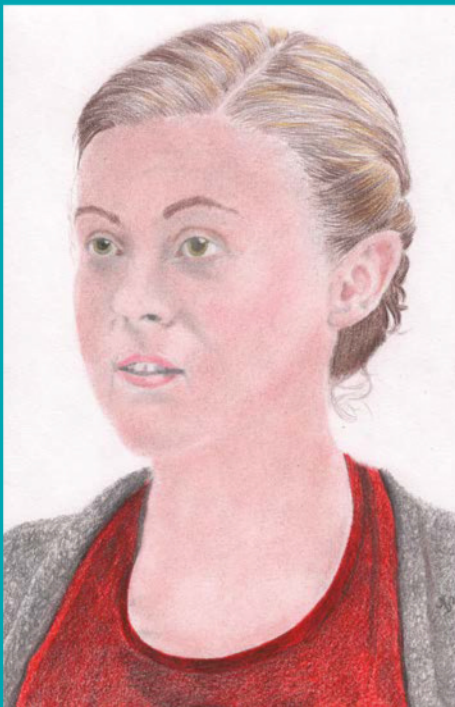
"I enjoyed hiding little nods towards *Star Wars* throughout the costume," says Maychack. "My stays were made from porg fabric, and I lined my hood with a technical readout of X-wings and the Death Star. My veil is a glittery black velvet that represents space and stars, as do the rhinestones on the neckline. My jewelry mimics Artoo-Detoo's lenses, and I used soutache trimming to imitate See-Threepio's exposed wiring." Maychack accessorizes the outfit with pearl X-wing earrings.

Photographed by Jessica Hansen, the costumes turned out magnificently. "It was fun to combine our love of *Star Wars* and our love of cosplay. We've both been fans of the saga since forever," says Maychack. "The story, the characters, the costuming—the whole galaxy is so exciting."



# ARTISTS' ALLEY

Talented *Star Wars* fans share their amazing drawings inspired by the galaxy far, far away....



## 01 "BERU LARS" AND "OWEN LARS" BY CLAUDIA RIEDEL

"Beru and Owen Lars were always rather underrated characters until the *Obi-Wan Kenobi* series," says fan artist Claudia Riedel, also known as Nomi Darklighter. The couple's showdown with Reva over the fate of a young Luke Skywalker has quickly become a favorite moment for the *Star Wars* community. "We saw how brave and courageous they actually were and it was time for me to draw them," concludes Riedel.

## 02 "BEN" BY ROBERT J LINN

With the success of *Obi-Wan Kenobi*, the fan-favorite Jedi has been receiving quite a bit of attention of late. Artist Robert J Linn created an excellent likeness of "Ben" Kenobi, whose exile on Tatooine eventually gave way to even more galaxy-spanning adventures. From rescuing Leia to training Luke, Qui-Gon Jinn's former Padawan had plenty of fight left in him.





## BOUNTY HUNTERS

Scouring the galaxy for the stars of *Star Wars*...

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## MOSES INGRAM

Are You Ready for Reva?



Venchise and Aaron Phillips pose with Moses Ingram, who portrayed Reva, the Third Sister, in *Obi-Wan Kenobi* (2022).

**V**enchise and Aaron Phillips from Myxed Madness Cosplay had a special surprise for Moses Ingram, best known to *Star Wars* fans for playing the Inquisitor Reva (also known as the Third Sister), in the hit series *Obi-Wan Kenobi* (2022): They would be cosplaying as Reva and Obi-Wan during their photo opportunity with the actor!

"Being able to meet Moses Ingram was absolutely incredible," says Venchise. "She was so kind and genuinely welcoming to every *Star Wars* fan all weekend!" How did the actor react to seeing her complex character brought to life by such an enthusiastic fan? "The look on her face when she saw me dressed as Reva!" Venchise exclaims, "She was so stunned and appreciative!"



## THE EMPIRE BITES BACK

Mouthwatering *Star Wars* character treats

**F**rom Chewbacca to Grogu, numerous *Star Wars* characters were known for thinking with their stomachs. Michelle Clausen is a working mom who likes to make tasty edible delights for her friends and family. "They're mostly sugar-inspired treats with a lot of geek and pop culture sprinkled throughout," says Clausen, who is a pharmacist by day. "I'm pretty much a fangirl at heart, even though I pretend it's all for the kids."

Even better, *Star Wars* is something that Clausen is able to share with them. "My oldest kid, now 17, is a huge *Star Wars* fan and he's been into it since he was little,"



elaborates the pharmacist. "I've always loved the franchise and have been inspired over the years by the expansion into new movies, cartoon series, and live-action shows, as well as books and online fandom." These influences are reflected in Clausen's cookies that depict everything from characters such as Maz Kanata and Fennec Shand, to planetary landscapes like Alderaan and Dagobah.

As someone who started their own blog as a creative outlet, Clausen is grateful for the friends made along the way, and things learned about crafting treats. "I like to see if I can recreate the characters in food form. There is so much inspiration and other food bloggers doing an excellent job and it's fun to be part of that," beams Clausen. "It's really just a creative outlet for me and very different than my day job."





# THE *STAR WARS* NURSE

Bravely standing by patients throughout the pandemic

In our galaxy, there are no bacta tanks to heal wounds. Instead, we turn to healthcare professionals such as Linnea Rainford, a nurse and *Star Wars* fan. “Being a nurse is amazing; you see people at their most vulnerable,” observes Rainford. “I love being able to soothe someone’s fears and calm their nerves, being able to advocate for my patient’s needs and using my brain to solve challenging problems. You really do have an impact on people’s lives.”

Rainford has even incorporated *Star Wars* into nursing shifts. “I work in orthopedic surgery, so it’s important to keep my hair up and out of my face while on the job,” states the nurse. Having endured



outbreak situations during the pandemic, Rainford needed scrub caps to protect their hair from germs. “My mom happens to be quite a talented seamstress, so we went to the local fabric store to pick out some different fabrics and designs.”

Luckily, Rainford found something to brighten up the caps: *Star Wars* fabric! “I love being able to express my personality and have a little fun with my scrub caps, so I am grateful to my mom, who’s a nurse too, for taking the time out of her busy schedule to make them for me.”

“*Star Wars* gives people a reason to smile,” adds Rainford. “We’ve been in an absolute nursing crisis, and it has been getting worse every day. Having a reason to smile really does help you get through the shift. I love being a nurse, and *Star Wars* helped me get through the program. There were nights where I’d come home exhausted and in need of an escape. I would curl up with my dog, throw on a *Star Wars* DVD, and get lost in it.”



# TK-101

HINTS, TIPS, AND IDEAS FOR CRAFTING  
YOUR OWN *STAR WARS* GALAXY



## SNAP HAPPY

TK-101 takes advice from professional photographer Matthew Cohen and attempts to recreate a famous scene from *Star Wars: A New Hope*!

WORDS: CHRISTOPHER COOPER

**M**atthew Cohen has a dream day job. “I get to play with toys for a career,” he tells TK-101. “I’m literally excited to wake up every Monday morning and start my working week!” It’s no wonder Cohen is so enthusiastic—he takes photos of *Star Wars* toys for a living.

“I’m one of a small team of photographers in the studio at Hasbro,” he explains. “I shoot other brands beyond *Star Wars*, but as a

lifelong fan it’s those projects that are my personal favorites.”

You’ll have seen Cohen’s work on toy packaging, such as the diorama featured on the box for Boba Fett’s Starship from the *Star Wars*: The Vintage Collection range. “Shooting *Star Wars* dioramas is great as it gives me the chance to recreate scenes from the saga,” he says. “But I also really enjoy the simpler shots on a white or black backdrop, which

allow me to focus on posing the action figure and bringing the personality of a character to life through the product. I take great pride in those.”

### Picture Padawan

Cohen is entirely self-taught, having switched careers from the hospitality industry to photography as his hobby evolved into a professional aspiration. “I’ve always had an interest in photography,” Cohen says. “There was always a decent point-and-shoot camera in the house when I was a kid. When my fiancée gave me a Black Series First Order Stormtrooper action figure as a gift, it reignited my passion for collecting. Then I discovered the toy photography community online and thought to myself ‘Wow! That looks like so much fun, I want to do that!’”

Having learned about lighting and composition from YouTube videos, Cohen took at least one photograph every single day for a year to hone his newly acquired skills.

“If you have an idea for some kind of special effect or lighting style, chances are someone has made an in-depth video teaching you how to do that one, very





## FIVE TOP TIPS

■ For natural light and a ready-made background, shoot outside. Find an interesting micro-environment, like a stream running under a mossy rock, or wind-swept sand dunes at the beach.

■ Shooting from a low angle makes your subject feel larger than life. It's called the "hero angle." It'll make your toys look and feel bigger than they are.

■ When choosing a background image, find one with a floor that can be easily replicated in your set. For a desert scene, use a tan sheet of coarse fabric laid across a table. For snowy scenes, use a sheet of white paper with baking soda scattered across it for texture.

■ Match your lighting to the background image, so that your subject is illuminated from the same direction. Lights can be softened with white tissue paper, plastic bags, or dedicated diffusion paper.

■ Use a tripod!

specific thing," the photographer says. "I was drawn to recreating still frames from the films as precisely as possible," he says. "That required me to learn new things about framing and cinematography, or how to make a lightsaber glow in Photoshop. Those scene replicas were what I became known for as I posted my pictures online."

As his social media presence grew, influencer work came his way. "I was approached to shoot the Black Series Jaxxon action figure for Hasbro's Lucasfilm 40th Anniversary social media reveal. I also did the social media reveal for The Vintage Collection ARC Trooper 3-pack. It was amazing to be given those opportunities, but I wanted to be able to do that full time. One day a job posting went up for a photographer at Hasbro, so I applied and now here I am!"



Images courtesy of matthewcohen.photography

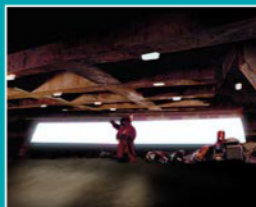
## Droid Diorama

Inspired by Cohen's dedication to his craft and the saga, TK-101 was itching to pick up some tips from our new photographic guru. Our first question was, what kind of camera would we need?

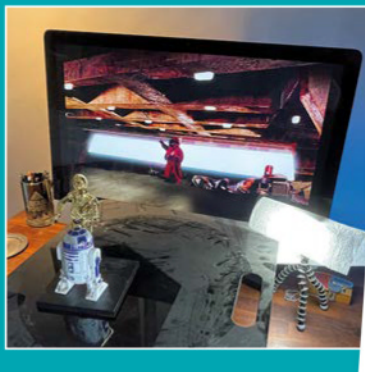
"I've always felt that the best camera for toy photography is the one you already have," says Cohen, who uses a Nikon D3300 DSLR camera for his personal projects. "There are plenty of photographers who use their smart phone as their primary camera, as they are actually very versatile. It's worth taking time to

truly learn all of the different settings on your phone's camera."

Cohen uses various methods to create scenery for his photographs, from simple printed backgrounds to built sets, and sometimes digital environments. "I'll repurpose fish tank décor or grab sticks, rocks, and dirt from outside," he reveals. "I'll sometimes utilize what's known in the toy photography community as a 'digirama,' which is a background on a computer monitor." So, not a million parsecs away from a modest miniature version of Industrial Light & Magic's StageCraft, then? TK-101 decided to give that a go! 🙌



To create our image of C-3PO and R2-D2 inside a sandcrawler, TK-101 created a makeshift studio using an edited frame from *A New Hope* (1977) as a "digirama" background on our computer monitor.





# The *Star Wars* Archive

The behind-the-scenes  
story of a galaxy far,  
far away...

## FESTIVAL VIBES

Pasaana's Festival of the Ancestors provided a rare moment of pure celebration in the Skywalker saga, a story more usually concerned with the eternal battle between light and dark than reveling in abundant joy.

The intention of the sequence was to give Rey, who had spent a majority her young life scraping a living on Jakku before becoming embroiled in the war against the First Order, an opportunity to witness the kind of happiness she was fighting to restore.

Filmed on location in Wadi Rum, Jordan, the festival was populated by 450 Aki-Aki extras. Due to the daunting practicality of finding that many performers to play the exotic creatures, the production cast members of the Jordanian armed forces alongside other locals. They learned the Aki-Aki's ritual dance in a boot-camp led by movement choreographer Paul Casey. ►







01 Director of Photography Dan Mindel (left) and co-writer/director J.J. Abrams (right) survey the festival location for *Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker* (2019).

02 Festival of the Ancestors concept art by Adam Brockbank and Jon McCoy.



02



03

03 Performers wearing Aki-Aki masks prepare to rehearse for the Festival of the Ancestors.

04 A crane-mounted camera capturing the arrival of Rey and her friends during Pasaana's famous event.

05 Key Grip Gary Hymns moving a camera into position to film the Aki-Aki dance, with director J.J. Abrams (left) not far behind.

06 Anthony Daniels as C-3PO on location in Jordan for *The Rise of Skywalker* (2019).



04



05





## LEAP OF FAITH

The use of practical effects in *The Rise of Skywalker* extended from creature puppets to in-camera stunts, including elements of Rey's incredible Force-powered leap into the air as Kylo Ren's TIE whisper raced towards her across the sands of Pasaana.

Daisy Ridley performed parts of the sequence herself, which required wire work (pictured above) to help the actor leap into the air and land spectacularly. The tricky twisting jump itself was carried out by Ridley's stunt double, with the shot being filmed on multiple cameras that included a drone to capture the athletic cartwheel from above.

A digital double of Rey replaced the stunt person in post production so that the figure's anatomy was identical to Ridley's, also allowing the effects artists to enhance the shot to ensure Rey's lightsaber sliced into the TIE at the right angle. 🗡️







THE SITH TEMPLE  
ON MOUNT NIBBELI





## TALES OF ENLIGHTENMENT

# “The Unusual Suspect”

By George Mann

Concept art by Christian Alzmann





“H

e’s late.”  
Piralli flicked another glance at the entrance. “What do you mean, ‘he’s late?’” said Moona. She

placed her empty glass on the counter, motioning to Old Chantho, the Ithorian behind the bar, to top off her drink. He muttered something under his breath but splashed a refill into her glass all the same.

“Keth,” said Piralli. “He’s usually here by now.”

“Maybe he’s not coming. You know he’s busy with all that peace conference stuff. It was all he was talking about yesterday, having to babysit that San Tooka guy.”

“San Tekka,” corrected Piralli, shaking his head. “They’re only the most successful hyperspace prospectors in the galaxy. Sanctioned to act as mediators for the peace talks by Chancellor Mollo himself.”

“Whatever.” Moona rolled her eyes. “The point stands. Keth’s busy.”

Piralli stared at her through the bottom of his glass. “I suppose.”

“What’s it matter, anyway? It’s not like you to mope around after the kid.”

“I want his opinion on something,” said Piralli.

“Well, *there’s* a twist. You’re usually the first to shout him down in any argument.”

Piralli sighed. “I’ve told you before, there’s a difference between an argument and a healthy debate. It’s the basis of our friendship. It’s what we *do*.”

Moona nodded sarcastically. “It’s what you do.” She seemed taken by a sudden thought and cocked her head to one side. “Anyway, what you’re saying—by implication—is that the opinion of a young human adjunct is worth more than that of a middle-aged, *experienced*, female Twi’lek.”

“Who never leaves her seat at the bar,” retorted Piralli, but not unkindly.

“Exactly. I see *everything* from this stool. All of life on Jedha passes through Enlightenment at one point or another. Just ask Kradon.”

“I don’t need to ask Kradon,” said Piralli, glancing at their amiable Villerandi host, who was presently *exchanging* words with the two Gloovan bouncers he kept on staff, Camille and Delphine. Or perhaps not exchanging, exactly—the Twinkle Sisters weren’t known for their verbosity.

“And I *do* value your opinion. But this falls much more in Keth’s area of expertise.”

Moona slid her drink off the counter and took a sip, leaning closer on her stool. Her breath smelled of retsa. “Go on. What is it?”

Piralli looked across the room towards the black-robed figure sitting in one of the nearby alcoves, alone. He was a tall, wiry, human. His hood was drawn up, casting his sallow face in deep shadow. He was sipping from what appeared to be a steaming glass of hot chea. “It’s *him*. He’s giving off a bad vibe.”

Moona started to turn in her seat, but Piralli caught her arm. “Be subtle.”

She glowered at him. “I’m *always* subtle.”

“*Right*,” said Piralli, drawing out the word. “Then be *more* subtle.”

With an exasperated sigh, Moona turned to regard the stranger. She looked him up and down for a moment. If he noticed her watching, he didn’t show it. With another shrug, she turned back around in her seat. “You don’t need Keth. *I* can tell you who he is. He’s a member of one of the small Force-worshipping sects here on Jedha. The Brotherhood of the Ninth Door.”

Piralli scratched his chin. “I’ve heard of them. Aren’t they followers of the dark side?”

Moona downed the rest of her drink. “Light side, dark side, what difference does it make? They’re all weirdos. Especially the Jedi.”

“But it’s in the name, isn’t it? *Dark* side. As in dangerous. As in ‘best stay out of their way’.”

Moona laughed. “Light and dark are just two sides of the same coin. Day and night. Sunrise and sunset.” She glanced back at the hunched figure in the alcove, and then motioned for Old Chantho to fill her empty glass again. “You worry too much. Nothing bad ever happens in Enlightenment.”

That was when the doors blew open and blaster fire raked the low ceiling, sending shattered glowlamps raining to the floor.

Later, Piralli would reflect on Moona’s words, and wonder whether it was all her fault for tempting fate. But at the time, it was all he could do to dive for the floor, dragging Moona off her stool behind him. They lay in a tangled heap for a moment, listening.

There was a heavy *whump* from the direction of the door. And then another. Piralli allowed himself an optimistic grin.



Whoever had come through those doors hadn't accounted for the Twinkle Sisters. He edged forward on his hands and knees, avoiding scattered shards of glass, to peer around the side of the bar.

Both Twinkle Sisters were on their backs, apparently unconscious. A rough-looking Klatooinian was detaching what appeared to be an energy weapon from Camille—a brace of small metal needles that had buried themselves in the Gloovan's flesh and still crackled with the flickering discharge of an electric current.

The bouncers had been stunned. They were out for the count. The rest of the bar's patrons were cowering in their seats or attempting to find safe places to hide, while several other heavies filed in behind the Klatooinian, all carrying blasters. They were an odd assortment of beings—a Rodian, two humans, a Frozian and an Iktotchi—all wearing matching leather waistcoats branded with the same insignia: two snake fangs dripping with venom.

A gang, then.

Piralli swallowed. This was *bad*. He edged back behind the bar, putting his finger to his lips to urge Moona to keep quiet.

"Everyone stay where you are, and we won't have to hurt you... *much*," barked the Klatooinian, snickering at his own joke.

A ripple of silence passed through the bar.

"Now, now. Kradon would like to stress that there is no need for any *unpleasantness*. Kradon is certain that we can come to a satisfactory arrangement for us all." The Villerandi's chittering voice was as calm as ever, as if dealing with an armed invader was all just another wrinkle in a typical day's work.

"Tellion *said* you were a smooth talker," said the Klatooinian. "He also said that's what got you into this mess. *Talking too much*."

Piralli sighed. *So that* was what this was about. Kradon had gone and upset the wrong person, probably selling information to someone unscrupulous about protecting their sources.

"Kradon does not know what you mean."

The Klatooinian answered him with another blaster shot, this time detonating a line of bottles behind the bar. "Oh, I think you know *exactly* what I mean. Tellion sends his regards. And hopes you don't mind a little mess."

Another blaster shot. Another shower of broken glass and fittings.

"And now, since we're here, we're going to make the most of it. So why don't you line up a row of your finest beverages while we liberate your patrons of their valuables."

A murmured groan passed through the bar, as the other patrons realized the true extent of their situation.

Piralli sensed movement close by and, fearing that some fool was about to try to make a break for it, was surprised to see the robed figure from earlier—the *dark sider*—had edged across the room towards an access door in the far wall, and was motioning for Piralli and Moona to follow him. Piralli glanced at Moona, half expecting to see her offering the man a rude gesture, but was even more surprised to find she was already shuffling after him, her bare knees scuffing the sticky floor.

"Wait!" hissed Piralli, but Moona just ignored him and kept on going.

Around the other side of the bar the gang members had started to force people to turn out their pockets. Kradon was doing his best to keep their Klatooinian leader talking, but just seemed to be antagonizing him further.

"Kradon can recommend far richer pickings in one of the bars on the other side of the city. They entertain *ambassadors* there..."

Another shot from the blaster, another fine vintage splashed across the floor.

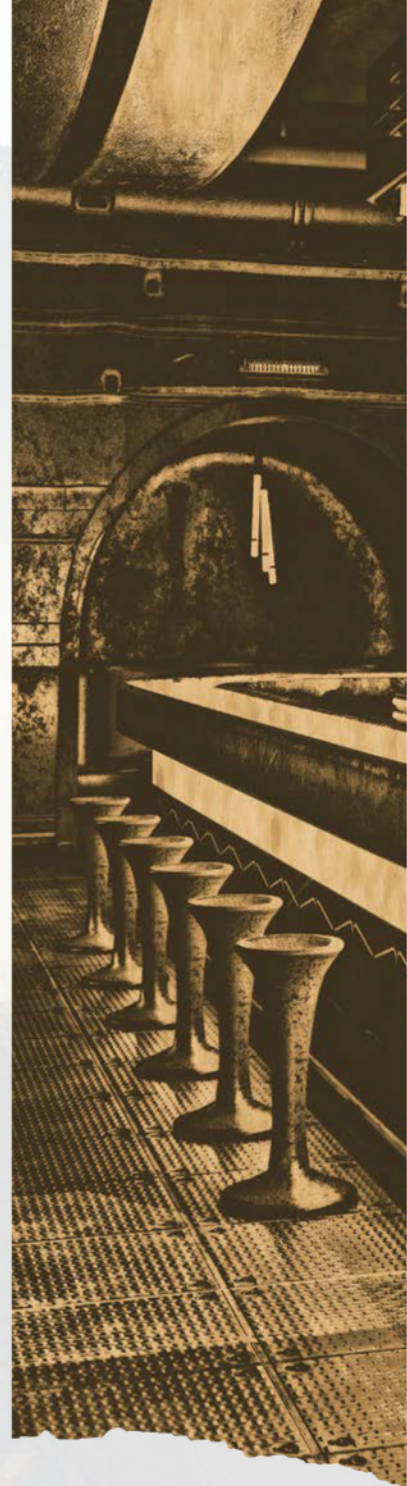
Piralli glanced after Moona again, and then, with the whine of blaster fire still ringing in his ears, he hurried off after her, keeping low.

The robed figure practically shoved Piralli through the open door the moment he caught up with them. Piralli sprawled across the floor of what appeared to be a storage room off the main bar. He picked himself up, dusting himself down, just as the robed figure slipped in behind him, pushing the door shut in his wake.

The man turned to face Piralli and Moona, pulling back the cowl of his robe. His face was gaunt, and his eyes were a startling, piercing blue. "My name is Mindoku," he said. His voice had a strange warbling quality, as if three different people were speaking the same words at once, all just a fraction out of sync.

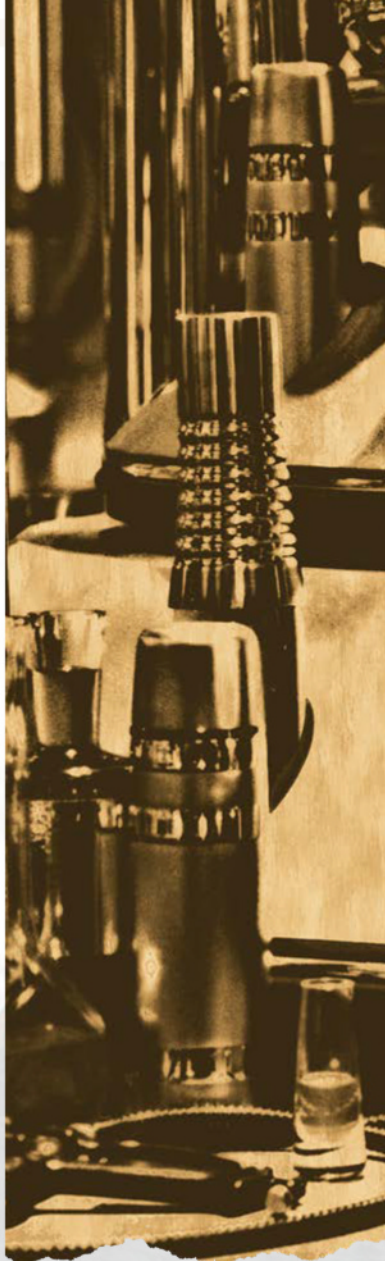
"Thank you," said Moona. "For helping us find a place to hide."

Mindoku frowned. "Hide?" He looked genuinely puzzled. "No. That's not why I called you over."



***“Light and dark are just two sides of the same coin. Day and night. Sunrise and sunset.”***





**“Regardless of what you might think, I intend to help those people out there. Can I count on your assistance?”**

Piralli shook his head. “Ah, here it comes. Everything has its price, right?”

Mindoku looked genuinely confused. “I don’t quite follow—”

“You’re going to protect us. For a *price*,” said Piralli, cutting him off. “That’s what this is, isn’t it? You’ll stop those gangsters from robbing us, but you want a cut of the proceeds yourself.”

“No.”

“Then *what*?”

“I require your help.”

“Our help?” echoed Moona.

“With what?”

“With stopping those miscreants from hurting anyone.”

Piralli gaped at the man. This didn’t make sense. What was his angle, here, exactly? “You’re saying you want to take on the gang?”

“And that surprises you?” said Mindoku.

“It does,” said Piralli. “What with you being a... well... a...”

Mindoku gave a wan smile. “I see. Well, regardless of what you might think, I intend to help those people out there. Can I count on your assistance?”

“Why do you need *our* help?” asked Moona. “Don’t you have one of those laser swords, or something?”

Mindoku laughed. “As your friend is clearly so keen to remind me, I am no Jedi. And my electrostaff was confiscated by your two Gloovan friends at the door. But perhaps I can get it back, with your help.”

Piralli and Moona shared a look. What choice did they have? This was Enlightenment, after all. Many of the people out there were their friends. And Piralli supposed it didn’t really matter what the dark sider’s agenda *really* was, so long as the result was the same—getting rid of those bandits before they did any more harm.

“All right,” said Piralli. “What do you need us to do?”

“See that barrel behind you? I need you to crack it open.”

Moona grinned. “Good idea. I could use a drink, and that’s one of Kradon’s imported Coruscant ales.”

“It’s not to drink,” said Mindoku.

“It’s not?”

Mindoku smiled. “Here’s what we’re going to do...”



Piralli was *certain* this was a bad idea. Any moment now, he was going to end up on the wrong end of a blaster shot,

and it would all be over. He wasn’t ready to die just yet. He should have stayed hidden in the storeroom.

Instead, here he was rolling a barrel of ale across Enlightenment with Moona, heading directly for the bar and the gang of armed robbers, who looked less than impressed to see them.

“Here you go, boss!” chirped Moona, brightly. “The barrel of ale you wanted.” They rolled the barrel to a stop before the bar, close to where the gang members had gathered. Nearly all their blasters were now pointed in Piralli and Moona’s direction.

“What is this?” spat the Klatooinian.

“A barrel of ale,” said Piralli, feigning ignorance. “We were just bringing it out from the storeroom. Why, what’s going on out here?” He looked at the blasters, then over to Kradon, who threw him a conspicuous wink.

“Kradon thanks you, Piralli. But I think you’d better do as our new guests say.”

“Wise words,” said the Klatooinian, motioning with the stub of his blaster. “Get over there and keep quiet. We’ll deal with you later.”

Piralli nodded as he and Moona backed away. Their feet splashed in the pool of ale that was slowly spreading from the open barrel, sloshing unnoticed around the boots of the hoodlums.

Surreptitiously, Piralli watched as Mindoku slipped from the storeroom, silently crossing the room. He neared the edge of the bar, and then... he was *gone*, and in his place stood another gangster, dressed in the same matching waistcoat as the others.

Piralli blinked and narrowed his eyes. Surely it had to be a trick of the light. But no—where Mindoku had stood was now a human gang member of around the same size and build.

The new individual walked insouciantly around the bar towards the door. The others barely paid him any notice. He stepped carefully over the supine form of Delphine and then, just as Piralli thought he was going to make a run for it, he turned left, grabbed the electrostaff that had been propped by the doorframe, and pivoted. The end of the electrostaff flickered to life. In the glow of the crackling current, Piralli glimpsed Mindoku—the real Mindoku—holding the weapon before him, his disguise now effortlessly dropped.

Mindoku plunged the electrostaff into the river of spilled ale that now sloshed



around the gang members' boots, causing it to ignite with an incandescent flare. Piralli swore that the light show that had erupted was still affecting his vision three days later.

Almost as one, the twitching criminals collapsed to the floor unconscious, their blasters slipping from their limp fingers. Mindoku lifted the electrostaff, twirled it once, and killed the power.

The entire establishment seemed to draw a breath. And then a cheer erupted, as people began to cautiously emerge from their hiding places.

"Shall I send for the Guardians?" said Mindoku, turning to Kradon, who was slithering out from behind the bar, a broad grin on his face.

Kradon looked down at the prone Klatootinian. "Oh, no," he said. "Kradon has ways of dealing with such *vermin*." He clapped his hands. "But now, a drink for our honored savior, perhaps? The very least we can do. Kradon is *most* grateful for your help."

Mindoku shook his head. "No, thank you. There's no need." He glanced round as Piralli approached. "Ah, and here's my reluctant accomplice."

"What you did..." said Piralli, struggling to find the right words. "You became *someone* else."

Mindoku laughed. "That's how my relationship with the Force works. When people look at me, they see what they *want* to see. Or sometimes, what *I* want them to see."

"Most remarkable!" said Kradon.

"Hold on, doesn't that mean..." Piralli frowned. "You could have walked out of here at any point. You could have used your abilities to cloud the gang's minds and make them see you as one of their own. You could have been safe and clear away from any of this the moment it started."

Mindoku shrugged.

"But you chose not to," said Piralli. "Why?"

Mindoku offered a tight smile. "What kind of person would leave others to suffer when they knew they could help?"

"But..." started Piralli.

"But such notions don't fit with your preconceptions of people like me, do they?" finished Mindoku. "With people whose beliefs you don't understand."

"No," admitted Piralli. He felt his cheeks flush with embarrassment. "And I'm sorry."

Mindoku put a hand on Piralli's

shoulder. "If it helps, just assume that I had my reasons and was getting something out of it all too." He turned and started for the door.

"But you weren't, were you? You weren't getting anything out of it," Piralli called after him. "You just wanted to help."

But Mindoku had already gone, blending seamlessly with the crowd beyond the open door.

Piralli sighed.

"I'm just sad about all that Coruscant ale," said Moona, kicking her boots through the grimy layer of ash that now covered the floor around the unconscious gangers.

"Do not worry," said Kradon, handing her a bucket and mop from beneath the bar. "Kradon will not charge you for it all at once."

Moona groaned.

She'd just started mopping the floor—while Piralli helped clear up the patina of broken glass that now seemed to cover every surface—when a boom *crack* seemed to rend the sky, causing the whole of Enlightenment to shudder.

"What the..." Piralli, frowning, stumbled towards the door and out into the sunlit street beyond, blinking in the harsh light. Others were spilling from the bar behind him, and from the surrounding buildings, too, coming out into the square and looking around, confused, for the source of the troubling sound.

Piralli felt Moona's hand on his shoulder. "There." He followed her gaze to see a huge column of oily black smoke coiling from one of the towers in the distance.

"That's the Second Spire," said Old Chantho, from behind Piralli's shoulder.

"Where they're holding the signing of the peace treaty between Eiram and E'ronoh," added Piralli.

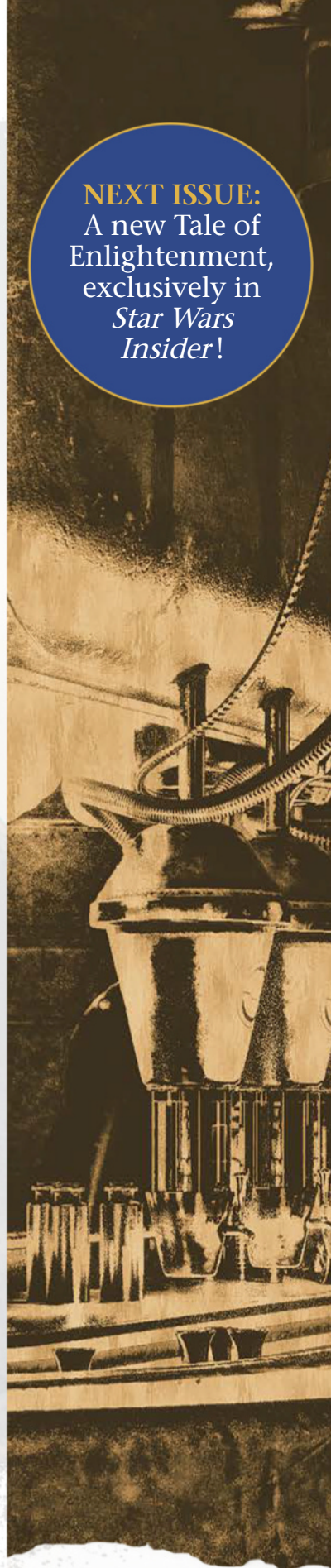
Moona sucked in her breath. "Well, it doesn't look as though *peace* is foremost on their mind, does it?"

They stood and stared at the roiling smoke as the crowds continued to gather in the street.

"Kradon doesn't like the look of this," said the impresario, clacking his fingers against one another nervously. Behind him, the shamefaced members of the gang were slipping out of Enlightenment's doors and away into the crowd, but no one was paying them any heed. "No. Kradon doesn't like the look of this at all..."

THE END

**NEXT ISSUE:**  
A new Tale of Enlightenment,  
exclusively in  
*Star Wars Insider*!





# JEDI MASTER'S QUIZ

From the High Republic era to offering sage advice to an aging Luke Skywalker on Ahch-To, Yoda trained aspiring Jedi Knights for many generations. What do you remember about the Jedi Master and his heroic exploits?

Compiled by  
Jay Stobie

## "DO. OR DO NOT. THERE IS NO TRY."

Search your feelings to answer these Yoda-related questions.

### JEDI MASTER

**1: Which emotion did Yoda sense within Anakin Skywalker when the boy was first brought before him?**

- A/ Fear
- B/ Love
- C/ Joy
- D/ Humor



**2: Where did Yoda spend his time teaching younglings until the end of the Clone Wars?**

- A/ Dagobah
- B/ Coruscant
- C/ Naboo
- D/ Kamino



**3: What advice did Yoda give to Anakin Skywalker about those who transform into the Force?**

- A/ Miss them eternally
- B/ Do not mourn or miss them
- C/ Hold on to their memory
- D/ Feel despair for them

**4: Why was Yoda disappointed in Luke Skywalker's attempt to lift his X-wing?**

- A/ Luke didn't believe the feat was possible
- B/ Luke called upon the dark side
- C/ Luke tried to cheat
- D/ Luke proved to be too strong

**5: When Yoda appeared to Luke on Ahch-To, what did he say was the greatest teacher?**

- A/ Passion
- B/ Success
- C/ Meditation
- D/ Failure

### WARS NOT MAKE ONE GREAT



**6: What did Yoda bring to reinforce the rescue mission on Geonosis?**

- A/ A droid army
- B/ Bounty hunters
- C/ Royal guards
- D/ Clone troopers

**7: Why was Yoda unable to capture Count Dooku at the First Battle of Geonosis?**

- A/ Yoda was unwilling to fight Count Dooku
- B/ Count Dooku's power was too great
- C/ Yoda chose to save Obi-Wan Kenobi and Anakin
- D/ Count Dooku was too skilled with a lightsaber

**8: Where did the clone troopers try**



**to execute Yoda during Order 66?**

- A/ Kashyyyk
- B/ Utapau
- C/ Mustafar
- D/ Cato Neimoidia

**9: Why did Yoda and Obi-Wan**

**Kenobi battle against the 501st Legion?**

- A/ To enter the Jedi Temple
- B/ To reach Anakin Skywalker
- C/ To find Mace Windu
- D/ To meet with the Senate

**10: What did Yoda decide to do**



**after his duel with Darth Sidious?**

- A/ Plan a rematch with Sidious
- B/ Go into exile
- C/ Allow Obi-Wan to face Sidious
- D/ Surrender to the Empire



### VISIONS

**11: What did Yoda tell Luke he needn't take into the Dagobah cave?**

- A/ R2-D2
- B/ A flashlight
- C/ His weapons
- D/ His personal demons



**12: What made Yoda undertake a vision quest near the end of the Clone Wars?**

- A/ He was tricked into it by Darth Sidious
- B/ He felt it could end the war
- C/ He heard the voice of Qui-Gon Jinn
- D/ He wanted to leave the Jedi Order

**13: Where did Luke Skywalker first see Yoda's Force spirit?**

- A/ The second Death Star
- B/ Forest Moon of Endor
- C/ Dagobah
- D/ Tatooine

**14: What did Yoda's Force spirit destroy the library on Ahch-To with?**

- A/ A lightsaber
- B/ Telekinesis
- C/ A large boulder
- D/ Lightning



**15: When did Rey hear Yoda's voice encouraging her to rise?**

- A/ During the Battle of Exegol
- B/ While fighting Kylo Ren on Pasaana
- C/ As she found Darth Vader's helmet
- D/ After Leia Organa passed away



## "LUMINOUS BEINGS ARE WE."

To whom did Yoda say these memorable lines:

1. "TRULY WONDERFUL, THE MIND OF A CHILD IS."
2. "FOUGHT WELL YOU HAVE, MY OLD PADAWAN."
3. "ADVENTURE. EXCITEMENT. A JEDI CRAVES NOT THESE THINGS"
4. "AT AN END YOUR RULE IS. AND NOT SHORT ENOUGH IT WAS."
5. "An apprentice, you have."

## YODA THROUGH THE YEARS

Identify which interpretation of Yoda appeared in which movie or television series:



**ANSWERS QUIZ:** 1. A, 2. B, 3. B, 4. A, 5. D, 6. D, 7. C, 8. A, 9. A, 10. B, 11. C, 12. C, 13. B, 14. D, 15. A.  
**"LUMINOUS BEINGS ARE WE,"** 1. Obi-Wan Kenobi, 2. Count Dooku, 3. Luke Skywalker, 4. Darth Sidious, 5. Qui-Gon Jinn.  
**"YODA THROUGH THE YEARS"** 1. The Clone Wars (2008-2020), 2. Attack of the Clones (2002), 3. The Empire Strikes Back (1980), 4. The Last Jedi (2017), 5. Rebels (2014-2018).

### HOW DID YOU DO?

Were you able to demonstrate all that you have learned?

0-9: Studied enough you have not. That is why you fail.

10-19: A Jedi uses the Force for knowledge. Getting there you are.

20-24: The knowledge of a 900-year-old Jedi Master you have. Well done!



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# STAR WARS

## I N S I D E R

**217**

## The End of the Beginning

Celebrating the 40th anniversary of *Star Wars: Return of the Jedi*

Interviews:

**Giancarlo Esposito**

**Grant Feely**

**John Knoll**

### *Star Wars: Timelines*

We talk to the authors of the book that brings order to the galaxy



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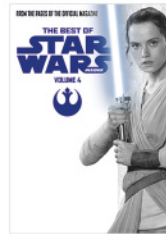
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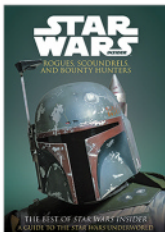
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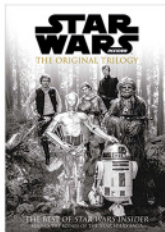
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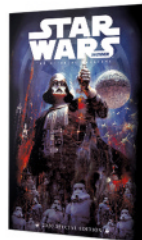
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